RIT

University Magazine
Winter 2020

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RIT University Magazine

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Imagine RIT—every day

Imagine a space where you can print a 3D object for a class project and also incorporate ceramics and glass blowing. Imagine the same space where you can get involved with photography, a formula race car, music, theater, or dance. Imagine if this space created the eclectic vibe that we experience annually at Imagine RIT: Creativity and Innovation Festival.

Students displayed a Human Hamster Wheel that produced electricity at last year's Imagine festival.

The Imagine RIT festival is our signature event where students and faculty display their capstone work and launch new ideas, services, and products into the world. The festival is one day. Imagine if we could capture that inspired activity 365 days a year.

This is the thinking behind our Innovative Maker and Learning Complex, a 100,000-plus-square-foot facility that will become the epicenter of what RIT represents—creativity and innovation at the intersection of technology, the arts, and design. RIT is the best university in the nation at which to house this under one roof.

When I first arrived on campus more than two years ago, we were talking about a serious renovation of the Wallace Library. I wondered, "why would we stop with the library?" We are now designing a facility that will link the library to the Student Alumni Union. (See more details on pages 16 and 17.) We need something that is emblematic of our university and that explains how we are distinctive. At the highest level, this facility will represent who we are to ourselves and the outside world.

The Innovative Maker and Learning Complex (stay tuned for an official name) is also imperative in an increasingly competitive landscape in student recruitment. It's intended to go after a particular kind of student—those who might be good at science and math, but also want to make something. Or maybe they want to continue their high school experience in the performing arts.

We also need to get thousands of our own students into this facility every day, so they walk by all this making and creativity. This is particularly true for our first-year students, who arrive not always knowing about the possibilities available at RIT.

This space will showcase those possibilities as well as how our students work together and share knowledge.

This university is in pursuit of the extraordinary, the novel, and the unexpected. Imagine RIT — every day.

Sincerely,

Dave

David C. Munson Jr., President
munson@rit.edu
Twitter: @RITPresident

P.S.: Save the date for Saturday, April 25, for Imagine RIT: Creativity and Innovation Festival, our signature event that draws 30,000 visitors to campus each year. You will discover nearly 400 interactive presentations, exhibits, hands-on demonstrations, research projects, and live performances from Tigers focused on shaping the future and improving the world.

RIT

University Magazine

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Xavier Thomas, a mechanical engineering student, works on his skills in a ninja warrior class. The class is held at Rochester Parkour Gym, which is owned by Charles Moreland '10.

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Tap dancing is one of more than 180 wellness courses offered at RIT. The university requires all undergraduates to complete two wellness courses.

In Brief

RIT joins KEEN

RIT is now a part of KEEN: Engineering Unleashed, a national partnership of about 50 universities that come together to advance engineering education. The group focuses on developing graduates who are technically prepared, understand societal changes, and strategically seek opportunities to improve upon these changes.

Research garners $74 million

RIT had its second-best year ever in sponsored research funding and a record year for research expenditures in fiscal year 2019.

RIT received 366 new awards totaling $74 million in funding, and expenditures grew to $61 million.

Remington to retire

R. Roger Remington, Vignelli Distinguished Professor of Design and RIT's longest-serving faculty member, will retire at the end of this academic year after 57 years at the university.

While he not only built a nationally recognized design program in the College of Art and Design, Remington made RIT an international archival resource for design. Send stories about Remington's impact on you to umag@rit.edu. We will run some of them in the Spring 2020 issue.

A. Sue Weisler

A conversation with Steve Hoover

Steve Hoover, who was recently named the Katherine Johnson Executive Director of RIT's new Global Cybersecurity Institute, is bringing together academia and industry to help tackle the world's cybersecurity problems. The former chief technology officer and senior vice president at Xerox is already at work on the institute, which is slated to open in fall 2020.

What in your career background led you to this new position?

I spent 25 years at Xerox in both research and product development. I led the teams that launched most of Xerox's new technologies and products, and I led the creation of a strong cybersecurity team with a focus on building security by design into a broad range of Xerox's products and services.

As the CEO of Xerox's flagship research laboratory, the Palo Alto Research Center (PARC), I built a very strong research open innovation business serving many large government agencies such as DARPA and the Department of Energy, as well as spinning out technologies into startups like Metawave and large corporations such as Microsoft, Google, and Procter & Gamble.

Why is RIT creating the Global Cybersecurity Institute?

There is a national shortage of people qualified to work in cybersecurity, and RIT is working to turn around this crisis. With the new institute, we'll be able to educate even more students, offer ways for working professionals to train and develop new skills, conduct an even broader range of research, and help companies explore and adopt the latest in cyber technologies.

What makes RIT the ideal place for this institute?

RIT has a long history of impact in technology through an unusual combination of three things—great scholarship, strong education, and highly impactful commercial and government collaboration. I think the university is a great place to combine deep knowledge of a technical area with the ability to deploy that in the real world for impact.

What is something you're working on that will make the institute stand out?

We're currently developing the Cyber Range, a benchmark facility that will allow us to create real-world cyberattack simulations over networks with thousands of servers. This facility will provide a testbed for both research and education to develop defenses and countermeasures to cyberattacks.

How will industry play a role in the institute?

The ability to simulate attacks in the Cyber Range will help us provide training not only for our students, but for industry executives and government officials who need new certifications and workforce development in advanced cybersecurity skills. A key focus over the next year is understanding the needs of our external partners, so we can draw businesses and talent to RIT.

Scott Bureau '11, '16 MBA

Metaproject 10 teams with Vignelli Center

RIT's Metaproject has come full circle. Since 2010, the course has paired RIT student designers with a client partner in what has become a seminal project for the university's internationally ranked industrial design program.

This year's project is honoring both the 10th anniversary of Metaproject and RIT's Vignelli Center for Design Studies, which houses the work of the late Massimo and Lella Vignelli, arguably the most influential designers of the past 50 years.

"Having the stable foundation of Modernist design thinking to build on gives us a wonderful platform for experimentation," said Josh Owen, Distinguished Professor and director of the industrial design program in the College of Art and Design and Metaproject's founder.

R. Roger Remington, Vignelli Distinguished Professor of Design and the Vignelli Center's director, noted that the celebratory collaboration "continues Metaproject's annual tradition of blending education and the real world."

metaproject 10

In keeping with the "Design is One" philosophy espoused by the Vignelli Center and recognizing that the Vignellis strived to create timeless design, this year's theme is "Design for Time." Eighteen industrial design students are tasked with creating a product that incorporates their own definition of timelessness.

In a new twist, students will vie for three awards that will be judged in December. In addition to Remington, Jennifer Whitlock, who serves as the Vignelli Center's archivist, and Ella von Holtum, assistant archivist for the RIT Archives, will serve as judges. Owen is lining up additional jurors for an Industry Award.

True to RIT's brand, Metaproject has connected students with design industry professionals at leading companies and provided the possibility of having their designs put into production.

Through Metaproject, RIT students have made important contacts with some of the most prestigious design-based companies in the world, and they have the opportunity to exhibit their creations each May during Design Week in New York City.

Rich Kiley

RIT and museum seal partnership with gift

RIT has received a $1.3 million gift to endow its partnership between the university and Genesee Country Village & Museum.

The gift comes from Philip Wehrheim '66 (business) and his wife, Anne.

"For me to be able to do this for the museum and also for my alma mater is a perfect fit," he said.

James Winebrake, dean of the College of Liberal Arts, said that while his college will manage the gift, the fund will support projects involving all colleges at RIT.

"Experiential learning is a hallmark of our university," Winebrake said. "This gift will guarantee opportunities for our students to gain valuable experience while benefitting the museum and the community for years to come."

Becky Wehle, president and CEO of the living history museum in Mumford, N.Y., said she is enthusiastic about the potential the gift holds for both organizations.

About $1 million of the donation will be used to endow the partnership, which could include funding research projects and stipends for faculty and students to work collaboratively with museum staff. The remaining $300,000 will be used to establish and maintain exhibit space for students who worked with the partnership to highlight fruits of the collaboration.

The museum and RIT have worked together on numerous projects in recent years. Students used 3D printing to fabricate appropriately-sized hands for mannequins; worked with Amelia Hugill-Fontanel, assistant curator in the Cary Collection, to dismantle and move the museum's 19th-century printing press; and developed streetscapes of the historic Corn Hill neighborhood of Rochester.

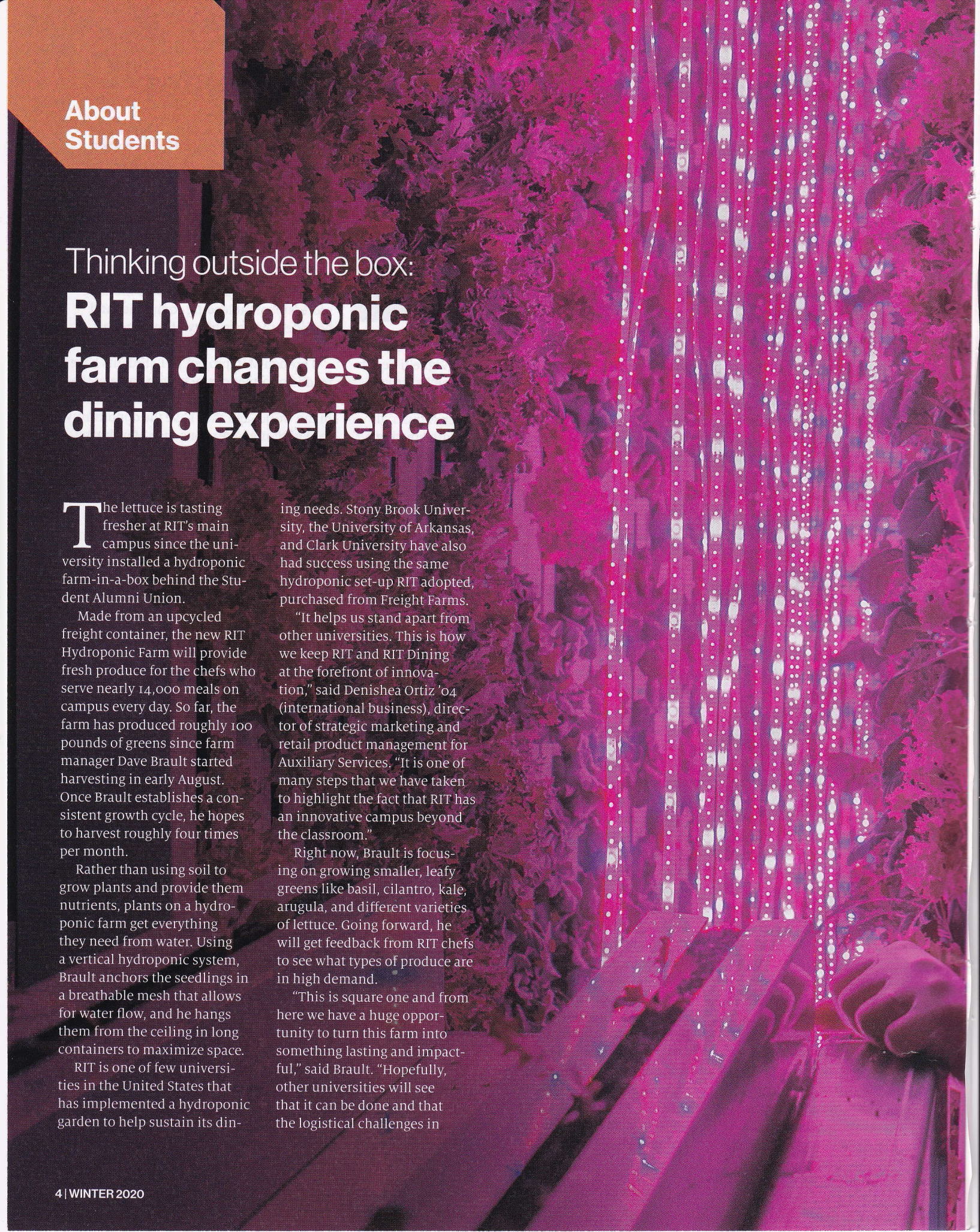
A. Sue Welsler

Philip Wehrheim '66 and his wife, Anne, gave a $1.3 million gift to endow a partnership between RIT and Genesee Country Village & Museum.

Over the past three years, more than a dozen RIT students have served as interns at the museum, working in the curatorial, marketing, and gallery departments.

A multi-disciplinary team of engineering students this academic year is working to develop a process for managing the museum's maintenance records.

Greg Livadas



Thinking outside the box:

RIT hydroponic farm changes the dining experience

The lettuce is tasting fresher at RIT's main campus since the university installed a hydroponic farm-in-a-box behind the Student Alumni Union.

Made from an upcycled freight container, the new RIT Hydroponic Farm will provide fresh produce for the chefs who serve nearly 14,000 meals on campus every day. So far, the farm has produced roughly 100 pounds of greens since farm manager Dave Brault started harvesting in early August. Once Brault establishes a consistent growth cycle, he hopes to harvest roughly four times per month.

Rather than using soil to grow plants and provide them nutrients, plants on a hydroponic farm get everything they need from water. Using a vertical hydroponic system, Brault anchors the seedlings in a breathable mesh that allows for water flow, and he hangs them from the ceiling in long containers to maximize space.

RIT is one of few universities in the United States that has implemented a hydroponic garden to help sustain its dining needs. Stony Brook University, the University of Arkansas, and Clark University have also had success using the same hydroponic set-up RIT adopted, purchased from Freight Farms.

"It helps us stand apart from other universities. This is how we keep RIT and RIT Dining at the forefront of innovation," said Denishea Ortiz '04 (international business), director of strategic marketing and retail product management for Auxiliary Services. "It is one of many steps that we have taken to highlight the fact that RIT has an innovative campus beyond the classroom."

Right now, Brault is focusing on growing smaller, leafy greens like basil, cilantro, kale, arugula, and different varieties of lettuce. Going forward, he will get feedback from RIT chefs to see what types of produce are in high demand.

"This is square one and from here we have a huge opportunity to turn this farm into something lasting and impactful," said Brault. "Hopefully, other universities will see that it can be done and that the logistical challenges in

Farm manager Dave Brault stands inside the 40-foot-long farm-in-a-box. LED lights and nutrient-enriched water replicate natural growing conditions.

Gabrielle Plucknette-DeVito

About Students

Emma Junga, a third-year mechanical engineering student with a concentration in energy and the environment, works at the farm a few days a week. After taking a tour of the farm, Junga was interested in the process and asked Brault for a job. Now, she helps care for the plants, including planting and harvesting, and gives tours to share information about the new farm.

Gabrielle Plucknette-DeVito

A. Sue Weisler

Produce from the farm is already being used in Brick City Café and by RIT Catering. In the future, the produce will be used at all dining areas on the main RIT campus.

Watch | To see a video, go to bit.ly/RITFarmInBox.

A. Sue Weisler

implementing something like this are not insurmountable."

Ortiz explained that the goal is to provide produce for all dining facilities on campus. Before they can roll things out on a larger scale, Brault and RIT Dining are experimenting with the growth cycles and outputs to learn what the farm is capable of.

The greens from the hydroponic farm are currently supplying produce for Brick City Café and are being used by RIT Catering.

"Brick City Café is known for its salad bar, thus the proximity of the farm is a chance to provide a literal farm-to-table experience," Ortiz said. "The produce is fresher and contains more nutrients."

Before coming to RIT, Brault built and established his own hydroponic farm in the Finger Lakes region of New York. Brault said he looks forward to the unique opportunities the university can provide with its plentiful resources of people-power, brain-power, and technological innovations.

"Farming is not something that most people would think involves a lot of technology, but the industry needs these advances to address the challenges that are coming our way," he said. "I think RIT will continue to find ways to innovate and use technology to help farmers move forward."

Felicia Swartzenberg '19

Gabrielle Plucknette-DeVito

Deanna Campagnola, a fourth-year illustration student, made this surrealist illustration. The painting shows off her love of honey.

Why I created this painting

This piece is one of my favorite works that I have created in my time here at RIT.

The prompt given to me was to create a surrealist illustration. Since I love honey—and bees are so cool, as well as important to our planet—I jumped at the chance to create an illustration incorporating them.

This surrealist piece blends a woman and her beehive hairstyle into a literal interpretation of a beehive.

I created this acrylic painting in my Illustration 2 class with Professor Robert Dorsey, who allowed me total creative freedom while providing technical guidance. The courses in the illustration BFA program have pushed me and my art in new directions, which has made me think more about what it means to be an artist.

My time at RIT has given me the opportunity to work in different types of mediums, allowing me to be more flexible in what I create. I currently illustrate using acrylic paints, digital, gouache, watercolor, colored pencils, and mixed media.

I have been able to develop a unique artistic style here that has aided me in providing my own identity and energy to my art.

My artistic style is very important to me, and with the encouragement of my professors and peers, I am discovering my own voice and building my skills to incorporate into each of my projects.

After I graduate, I plan to work in freelancing and licensing. I hope to sell my characters and designs to clients for them to use in projects such as editorial work, books, and other reproductions.

Deanna Campagnola

Fourth-year illustration student
Hometown: Clifton Park, N.Y.

You're invited to the next stop on Transforming RIT: The World Tour

Featuring a mix of dynamic and engaging alumni, faculty, and students, these events provide intellectually curious alumni and friends of RIT the opportunity to engage in thought-provoking discussions on trending topics and critical issues.

Join **RIT President David C. Munson, Jr.** at our next stop, in-person or online:

San Jose, CA
January 14, 2020

Washington, DC
March 18, 2020

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Missed the last event?
View the recorded discussion at **rit.edu/transformingRIT**.

BOSTON, MA
SEPTEMBER 19, 2019

Three innovators of the 21st century lead a conversation about entrepreneurship

- **Kailey Bradt BS '15, MS '18**, Founder & CEO of OWA Haircare, Inc.
- **Rob Frasca BS '88**, Co-Founder & Managing Partner of COSIMO Ventures
- **Nicholas Lemieux BS '13**, Founder & CEO of Million

Transforming **RIT**
The Campaign for **Greatness**

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Researchers prepare rocket for launch

A team of RIT researchers is helping launch an experiment above the atmosphere to better understand extragalactic background light, which traces the history of galaxies back to the formation of the first stars in the universe.

"We're trying to understand the fluctuations in the background light at infrared wavelengths," said Michael Zemcov, assistant professor of physics and a member of RIT's Future Photon Initiative and Center for Detectors. "We want to know if there is matter or sources of light in between galaxies that we can't find in the ways we've been using up to now."

The experiment leverages an observational technique called intensity mapping used to study the structure of the universe.

Zemcov is the principal investigator of the observational cosmology project, dubbed the Cosmic Infrared Background ExpeRiment-2 (CIBER-2).

Chi Nguyen, an astrophysical sciences and technology Ph.D. student from Vietnam, is one of the researchers critical to the project. She received a NASA Earth and Space Science Fellowship in astrophysics research that funds her contribution to the project's data analysis and instrumentation.

The experiment section of the rocket—the compartment that holds the telescope and detectors—arrived at the RIT campus in August so that Zemcov and Nguyen could assemble and calibrate the equipment, along with support from collaborators from Japan, California Institute of Technology, and University of California, Irvine.

At the end of November, it ships to the Wallops Flight Facility in Virginia to be integrated with the rocket.

It then heads to the New Mexico desert in January where the rocket will ultimately launch.

CIBER-2 will fly on a Black Brant IX sounding rocket from the White Sands Missile Range in February. The short flight will last for about 15 minutes and CIBER-2 will collect data for about half that time before the rocket returns to Earth.

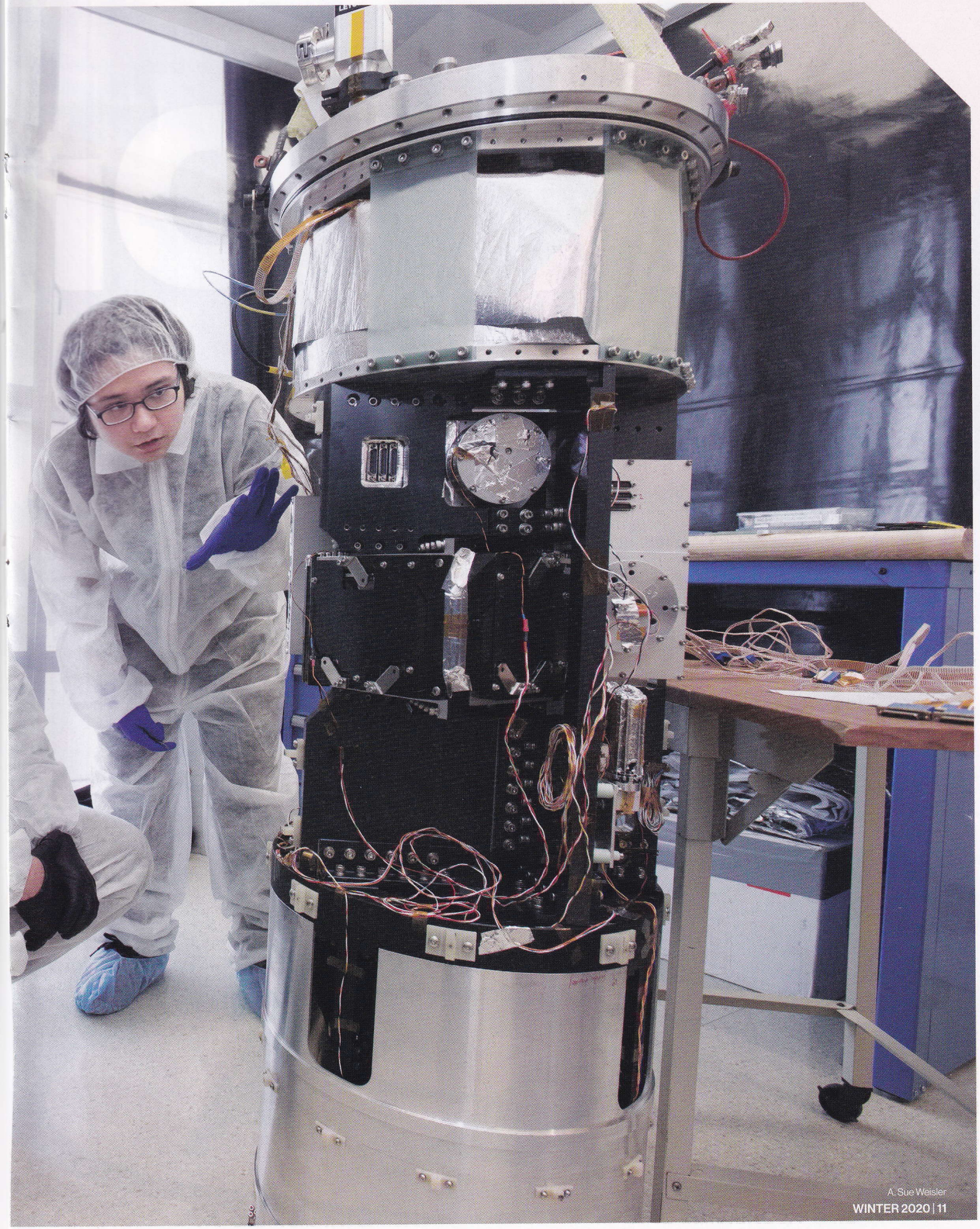
Once the launch is complete, researchers will begin analyzing the data and preparing for subsequent launches over the next five years that will collect additional data at different wavelengths.

Zemcov said that if the experiment uncovers new sources of light in between galaxies that couldn't be found through other means, it would raise additional important questions.

"If we find such light, how bright is it, where is it coming from, and what's responsible? It could be things as simple as stars outside of galaxies or it could be even more exotic things like dark matter that's decaying into photons."

Luke Auburn '09, '15 MS

Assistant Professor Michael Zemcov and Chi Nguyen, an astrophysical sciences and technology Ph.D. student, are preparing CIBER-2 to fly on a Black Brant IX sounding rocket, left, in February.



A. Sue Weisler

Dr

Making a difference

Precision agriculture attracts students who want to help solve food shortages for the world's growing popluation.

Ready to fly

Tim Bauch '16 (imaging science), senior lab engineer and drone pilot, prepares the RIT-developed MX1 imaging payload for flight over an agricultural field.

A. Sue Weisler

Drones are coming soon to a farm near you

Drones are adding a new level of precision to agriculture, giving farmers digital tools for cultivating better and more profitable crops.

"The machinery that large farms use—big combines and sprayers—they can take input from GPS and it automates the application process of fertilizer, for example," said Carl Salvaggio, RIT professor of imaging science. "This technology can also spatially tell you where to harvest to get the best crop product."

Salvaggio and Professor Jan van Aardt are developing imaging systems at RIT that could make drones commonplace on farms in western and central New York, enhancing the Finger Lakes region's focus as a food hub, while creating the supporting technology and software companies.

Salvaggio, who leads RIT's signature research program in unmanned aerial systems (UAS) imaging, offers some ideas on how drones can help farmers.

For instance, accurate measurements of soil nutrients and moisture level, disease risk, and plant maturity could take the guess work out of predicting harvesting and processing schedules. Information captured by specialized imaging technology could also reduce the need for chemical controls, by indicating where, when, and how much to apply.

RIT's remote sensing expertise could also establish technical standards that ensure the scientific integrity of the fledgling industry.

Salvaggio, who primarily conducts research for the defense industry, is taking the lead in atmospheric compensation, calibration of imagery, and radiometric processing to ensure continuity in imagery collected over time.

It's a point of pride for the RIT researcher; if the imagery isn't adjusted for atmospheric differences between scenes, dramatic changes in illumination between a sunny morning and an overcast afternoon will skew the data and lead to misinformed decisions at the farm level.

Taking the guess work out of farming

Carl Salvaggio, professor of imaging science, is developing imaging systems to help farmers .

Gabrielle Plucknette-DeVito

"A lot of people are flying without calibrating their data, and they're providing data that, to them, looks right," Salvaggio said. "There is so much promise in these systems, but if you lose the faith of the farmer, you're never going to get it back, and that could make an industry flourish or totally bankrupt it."

A regional collaboration of strategic partners, called the FARMS (Fostering Agricultural ReMote Sensing) Alliance, is developing both the unmanned aerial systems technology and the best practices for using it.

Van Aardt is leading this National Science Foundation-funded project focused on remote-sensing applications in snap bean production.

The crop is economically important to New York as one of the biggest producers of processed and fresh market snap beans, following Wisconsin and Florida. The U.S. Department of Agriculture, in 2015, ranked snap beans as the fifth largest vegetable crop, in terms of acreage, with a $416 million market value.

The availability of a commercialized imaging product for managing white mold, predicting crop ripeness, and estimating the snap bean yield could have a big impact on farmers.

That is welcome news to Jeff Johnson, agricultural manager at the Seneca Foods Corp. location in Geneva, N.Y., who has been talking to van Aardt for years about the need for a better way of managing crops with imaging technology. Johnson is responsible for growing 10,000 acres of snap beans for one of the nation's largest vegetable processors and relies on crop scouts to monitor the ripening pods and look for signs of white mold.

"When we send people out to the field, they are walking a path," Johnson said. "We send a drone over the field, it can see the whole field. In theory, we can have a better picture of that whole field than our person does by just walking through it, and labor is becoming more expensive and harder to find."

The crops are staggered because the processing plant can handle only so many tons per day, and the tight operating schedule isn't negotiable.

"In our world, there's a 24- to 72-hour window when the beans are ripe," Johnson said. "It's critical from our planning standpoint knowing when those fields will be ready to harvest."

A. Sue Weisler

Nina Raqueno, an assistant scientist in imaging science, and Amirhossein Hassanzadeh, an imaging science Ph.D. student, use imaging systems on drones to help farmers.

The challenge of predicting plant maturity is pushing the limits of remote sensing. Van Aardt is combining hyper¬spectral imaging to capture light signatures and LiDAR (light detection and ranging) sensors to build a spatial, three-dimensional, or topographic, picture. "We're trying to fly a drone, look at a snap bean plant—not even the pods—and see if there is a signal in the plant that tells us the pods are mature or ripe," he said.

And when it comes to white mold, van Aardt and imaging science graduate student Ethan Hughes are identifying the spectral and structural indicators that influence pesticide timing and disease risk. "We want to see—even before the mold occurs—if we can predict where disease incidence will be the highest, so farmers can spray only in those areas," van Aardt said.

"Remote sensing techniques in agriculture hold the promise of standardizing crop assessments with a scientific accuracy not possible from manual observations," said Sarah Pethybridge, assistant professor of plant pathology at Cornell University.

A white-mold expert, Pethybridge, along with Julie Kikkert at Cornell's Cooperative Extension, are already developing risk models for snap beans with Salvaggio and van Aardt for an ongoing U.S. Department of Agriculture study. Pethybridge's project inspired van Aardt to form the FARMS Alliance.

"From the exploratory research done with RIT, we have good spectral signatures to detect flowers, which is an important step in identifying optimal timing of pesticides for white-mold control," Pethybridge said.

The goal for Salvaggio and van Aardt is to get the information products into the farmers' hands.

"We use expensive sensors with hundreds of spectral or color channels, but we actually only want to identify five or fewer channels that are useful for specific applications," van Aardt said. "Then we can transition those five channels into a more affordable sensor that a farmer or a service provider could use operationally."

Susan Gawlowicz '95

New hub will bring magic of Imagine RIT to campus every day

Plans are in the works for a makerspace that will connect Wallace Library with the Student Alumni Union.

Elizabeth Lamark

By the numbers

- **Design and documentation process:** 12 to 18 months
- **Construction:** about 18 months
- **Estimated grand opening:** fall of 2022
- **Construction costs:** $100 million +
- **Size:** over 100,000 square feet

An ambitious initiative along the Quarter Mile will transform RIT into a maker's heaven, where the arts and technology converge and ideas percolate freely.

The Innovative Maker and Learning Complex, an unofficial name for now, will have a footprint of more than 100,000 square feet. The facility will occupy the grassy slope overlooking the south side of campus. It will connect the Student Alumni Union with the Wallace Library and create a new nexus point on campus.

"We realized many years ago that if we want a 24/7, lively, urbanistic-feeling community, it's up to us to build it," said James Yarrington, RIT university architect and director of planning and design services.

Envisioned by RIT President David Munson Jr. as the new epicenter on campus, the complex will reverberate daily with the hum of the Imagine RIT: Creativity and Innovation Festival.

The details are still in flux, but an emphasis on visible workspaces will showcase creative projects and collaborations currently hidden behind brick walls. Transparent spaces will highlight student project teams and demonstration studios for the arts. Other possibilities include a black-box theater with approximately 200 seats and large flexible classrooms for group activities.

The complex will reflect the eclectic interests of RIT's student body. Visitors to campus will be able to "understand RIT in 15 minutes," Munson said. "We need something that is emblematic of our university and which explains visually how we are distinctive. It will represent who we are to ourselves and the outside world."

While similar in spirit to RIT's MAGIC Spell Studios, the new center will have a broader scope.

"The MAGIC Center concentrates on one sector of making and technology; this will be an all-encompassing facility," Munson said. "We need to get thousands of our own students in this facility every day, so they walk by all this making and see what all the possibilities are here."

The project also includes an extensive redesign of the library and limited renovations to the student union.

"The location is not a flat site, and all sides are potentially very dynamic," Yarrington said. "Coming into this building, we want you to feel like you're in the middle of an active, energized environment with light, artificial and natural."

These interior spaces will create "a new spine of student life and student services" running roughly parallel to the Quarter Mile, noted Tori Budgeon-Baker, RIT senior architect and space planning manager.

The project coincides with RIT's growing research portfolio, expanding doctoral programs, and global campuses in China, Croatia, Dubai, and Kosovo, contributing to the university's approximate 19,000 enrollment.

Construction costs will exceed $100 million, making it the largest undertaking since building the Henrietta campus, which opened in 1968.

The facility will be funded, in part, by $17.5 million from RIT trustee and alumnus Austin McChord, part of his record $50 million gift to RIT in 2017.

A programmatic study, "Imagine RIT Every Day," led by Yarrington and Budgeon-Baker, represented RIT stakeholders—from students and staff, to faculty, deans, and vice presidents—and took a "big-tent approach" to what could fit in the building.

Members of the task force will contribute to the design decisions, Munson said.

Boston-based architect William Rawn Associates will design the project, and Rochester firm HBT Architects will handle construction details and specifications.

The design and documentation process kicked off in July and is expected to last 12 to 18 months. This intensive early work will ensure a smooth-flowing project, said Budgeon-Baker.

Susan Gawlowicz '95

Where will the tiger go?
Chances are high that the Tiger Statue on the Quarter Mile will be relocated during the construction of the Innovative Maker and Learning Complex. But the project presents a new opportunity to showcase the tiger, said James Yarrington, RIT university architect and director of planning and design services. "It's great on the Quarter Mile, but if it's embraced by a building as a major feature, that's even better," he said. At least the tiger's sweater would stay dry.

Architects
William Rawn Associates Architects Inc., a world-class firm based in Boston with projects across the country on college campuses and in civic spaces, will design the project. Rochester firm HBT Architects will handle construction details.

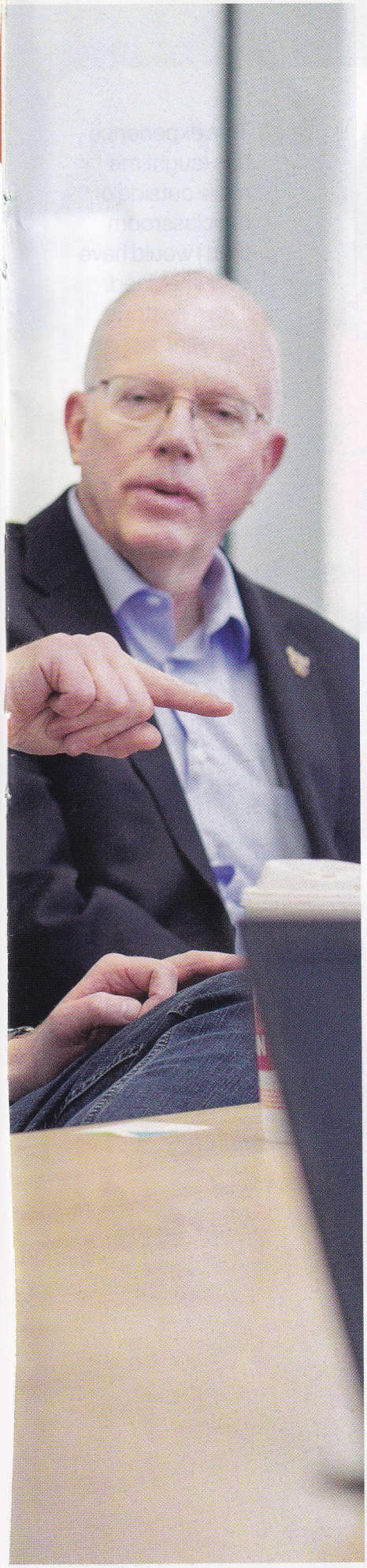
Transforming RIT
RIT launched a $1 billion blended campaign called Transforming RIT: The Campaign for Greatness. A pillar of the campaign calls for the university to enhance the student experience by building innovative learning facilities and strengthening performing arts programs. RIT will seek additional philanthropic support for this initiative when plans are available. Learn more at rit.edu/transformingrit.

Building businesses

Fellowship allows students to be entrepreneurs and stay in school

Alumnus Austin McChord and RIT President David Munson, right, met with Gap Year Fellows in August. McChord supports the fellowship program financially and by mentoring the students.

To see a video, go to bit.ly/GapYearFellow.



Photos by Elizabeth Lamark

Before transferring into the School of Individualized Study (SOIS), Zack Evans was ready to drop out of college to concentrate on his shipping fulfillment business full time.

"I didn't have the time for school anymore and I could not let this business idea go," said Evans. "College would be around forever, so I wanted to focus on growing my business while I still could."

After talking with James Hall, dean of University Studies and executive director of SOIS, Evans found an alternative that would benefit his business and college career: The Gap Year Entrepreneurial Fellowship.

The fellowship was created in 2018 and allows SOIS students to take time off of school to focus on personal business ventures while still working toward their degrees. Students in the fellowship also receive a $15,000 award to create the time and space needed to build their business, and they have access to mentorship from entrepreneurial experts at the university.

"We want to bring the most talented and most creative students to the Rochester community, and to RIT, and send them the message that the passions and dreams that they have can be pursued here," said Hall. "Sometimes that means getting out of their way. Sometimes that means opening up space for them to drive the particular innovations that they're invested in."

The Gap Year Fellowship was made possible by a gift from alumnus Austin McChord, founder of Datto and venture partner at General Catalyst, who gave $50 million to the university in 2017. The fellowship was one of many areas on campus McChord supported with his gift.

"I really hope that students come away from the gap year with a better idea of what's possible and, really, a stronger belief in themselves about what they can build," said McChord, who also is an RIT Trustee. "I hope every single student feels like they are in much better control of their career and has a better idea of where they want to go and what they want to do."

Reflecting on his experience as a young entrepreneur at RIT, McChord emphasized why he thinks it's important to give the time, mentorship, and financial resources that allow a student start-up to grow.

"RIT was instrumental in me achieving the success that I was able to achieve, so the right thing to do is give back and, hopefully, help future students go on and do even bigger things than anything I have ever done," he said.

The fellowship began in 2018 when Brandon Hudson, a fourth-year SOIS student, took a gap year to focus on growing his HVAC systems company, Seerwise.

Since then, four new students have participated in the program: Evans, Sam Cammarata, Jeremiah Gryczka, and Amanda Zaremski.

Meet the fellows on the following pages.

Felicia Swartzenberg '19

Advice for young entrepreneurs

During a meeting with the Gap Year Fellows, RIT alumnus Austin McChord was asked what advice he had for students working to build their own companies.

Here's what he said:

- Tell a compelling story. Even if an investor has heard 10 pitches that day, make yours stand out.
- You can run your company however you want, so focus on making it a place where people want to stay.
- When talking to investors, be transparent and honest. If you don't know an answer, just say you don't know.
- Know your business, know your space in the market, and, most importantly, know your limits.

WinutRx

Amanda Zaremski, CEO of WinutRx

Fourth-year School of Individualized Study student with concentrations in decision sciences and health care management

From Irondequoit, N.Y.

Gap Year Fellow from January 2019 to August 2019

> "This experience has taught me more outside of the classroom than I would have ever imagined. It's a milestone in my life."

WinutRx is...
A patient-centric medical tool for mobile devices used to personalize nutrition and medication tracking for people diagnosed with cardiovascular disease.

Why take time off of school?
Through this fellowship, Zaremski had time to learn more about health care, technology, and the relationship between the two. Additionally, she learned more about running a business and networked with established professionals in her field.

"It's definitely a risk because you're prolonging your graduation, but I wasn't ready to graduate if I had this idea and didn't pursue it."

How did WinutRx start?
Zaremski needed to present a business pitch for a class project, but she didn't discover an idea that interested her until she got a phone call from her grandmother.

"My grandmother has cardiovascular disease and she told me one day, 'did you know I can't have this specific orange?'" she said. "I come from a nursing background, so she asked me to look into her medications to see what foods she can have. Then I thought, 'Hang on, I bet she's not the only one that has this issue.'"

She wrote down her ideas for the mobile medical tool that day. Zaremski said she still has that original paper with all the fledgling ideas, which became WinutRx.

Goals accomplished during fellowship:

1. Learned more about health care technology.
2. Learned more about how to communicate between the technical and medical worlds.
3. Learned more about running a business within the health care industry.

Jeremiah Gryczka, owner of Mountain House Media

2019 graduate from the School of Individualized Study with concentrations in film, photography, advertising, and business

From Syracuse, N.Y.

Gap Year Fellow from May 2019 to August 2019

> "This idea was essentially a product of my life experiences. I wanted to build something that is bigger than myself."

Mountain House Media is...
A digital media production and advertising agency which acts as a creative partner for its clients by helping to improve visibility of their businesses and by stimulating creative growth.

Team members from RIT
Mountain House Media employs six from RIT: Andrew Sevigny '19 (motion picture science); Trevor Brashich '19 (motion picture science); Mike Chungbin, a fourth-year motion picture science student; Taylor Butler '19 (graphic design); and Tori Dunn, a fourth-year film and animation student.

Why apply for this opportunity?
Gryczka wanted to create a commercial to show clients what the talent at Mountain House Media can do. After applying to the MAGIC Maker program, Gryczka worked with MAGIC and SOIS to formulate a way each party could co-support his gap-year experience.

"Getting into the fellowship was kind of like a happy accident. I was in disbelief when I found out that we were accepted," said Gryczka. "Even though I didn't get what I originally applied for, I'm thankful that it led me to this program."

What's your advice for other student businesses?
The biggest piece of advice Gryczka has to offer to other student-run businesses is to simply say yes and don't wait on someone else's instructions.

"Opportunity is about saying yes to anything. Don't wait for what you think will be the perfect opportunity, start it today and see where things can go," said Gryczka. "You can't grow unless you just start."

Goals accomplished during fellowship:

1. Created a commercial campaign to advertise the company.
2. Revamped the company's online presence and inbound marketing efforts.
3. Created a referral program to attract new clients.
4. Reinvented and improved branding and marketing materials.

> Everything I want from college I am getting through the Gap Year Fellowship.

Zack Evans, co-founder and co-CEO of Librex Fulfillment

Third-year School of Individualized Study student with concentrations in entrepreneurship and software engineering

From Bethesda, Md.

Gap Year Fellow from August 2019 to May 2020

Librex Fulfillment is...
A third-party logistics company that helps international and local e-commerce businesses reach their customer base in the American and Canadian markets.

How did you find SOIS?
When trying to find a way for Evans to pursue both his degree and business idea, his professors and mentors suggested he explore SOIS. "SOIS has a flexibility with learning that I think we all need more of," he said. "As soon as I found the program, I knew I belonged there. It was the first time I felt at home at RIT."

How has this fellowship helped you?
Evans is able to travel and explore options for new warehouse spaces across the country without worrying about missing classes. He will also receive co-op credit for the fellowship, which counts toward his graduation requirements.

"Every step of the way there was someone that knew what the next step should be," he said. "I'm quite thankful for everything they've provided me with and all the help they've given to me."

Where will Librex Fulfillment go next?
Evans has high hopes for the future of Librex Fulfillment. He plans to expand into a multi-warehouse fulfillment network and become a seamless extension for international businesses in the United States.

"We want to go full circle and cut out the middlemen," Evans said. "The goal is to make shipping to North American markets easier and more sustainable for international businesses."

Goals for his fellowship experience:

1. Establish a warehouse network.
2. Develop an in-house software system to make it easier for customers to manage their businesses.

Sam Cammarata, co-founder and co-owner of Aesthetician Labs

Fourth-year School of Individualized Study student with a concentration in games production

From Holland, N.Y.

Gap Year Fellow from May 2019 to August 2019

> "It's extremely validating that someone else thinks our business is valuable enough to invest in."

Aesthetician Labs is...
An artist-owned video game collective which focuses on producing games that are "aesthetic, juicy, and satisfying to play."

Team members from RIT
Aesthetician labs is co-owned by Cammarata, Noah Ratcliff, and Aidan Markham, two fifth-year game design and development students.

Why take time off of school?
Previously, Aesthetician Labs had participated in the Maker program run out of MAGIC Spell Studios. That experience and the ongoing relationship with the studio has, according to Cammarata, greatly helped with the company's foundational development as a business. After hearing about the Gap Year Fellowship, Cammarata knew Aesthetician Labs should take advantage of the new program.

"Not only was the opportunity for funding really appealing to us, but gaining access to resources on campus and developing a relationship with SOIS was very beneficial."

What makes your company different?
Aesthetician Labs prides itself on rejecting the normalization of "crunch culture." Instead of producing as many games as quickly as possible, the company prioritizes the well-being of its developers.

"There's this mindset in games where people think if you're passionate enough, you will be willing to put in sleepless nights. We are very adamantly against that," Cammarata said. "While that means we have fewer working hours compared to a company that utilizes crunch culture, we are making sure all our developers have a sustainable work schedule."

Goals accomplished during fellowship:

1. Developed a working relationship with a mobile game publisher.
2. Expanded the company's portfolio of game prototypes to present to game publishers.

ARCHERY

Eve Cho, a second-year computer science major, left, and Dancin Feldman, a fourth-year new media interactive development student, participate in an archery wellness course. Archery is one of the most popular classes.

Gabrielle Plucknette-DeVito

Gabrielle Plucknette-DeVito

FENCING

Students learn and practice fencing in the Student Life Center. No previous experience is required to take most wellness courses, which are normally held two times a week.

Michelle Schrouder, director of Wellness Education, said RIT students have been required to take wellness courses since the 1970s as a way to keep them active and healthy. The goal is for students to appreciate a healthy lifestyle that will last long after they graduate.

And it seems to be working. Eighty-five percent of students surveyed last year said they were incorporating wellness concepts into their lives.

Among them is Richa Khanolkar, a fifth-year digital humanities and social sciences major from Princeton, N.J. She says her wellness class is so important, she planned her academic classes this semester around her tennis course.

"That goes on my schedule first," she said. "If I don't do it, I'm basically a sitting potato. It keeps me busy and active."

Khanolkar has taken nearly a dozen wellness courses in tennis, badminton, steel drums, and a "120-day challenge" involving weightlifting. She said the courses have made her become more aware of fitness, and she's been better able to maintain a healthier body composition because of it.

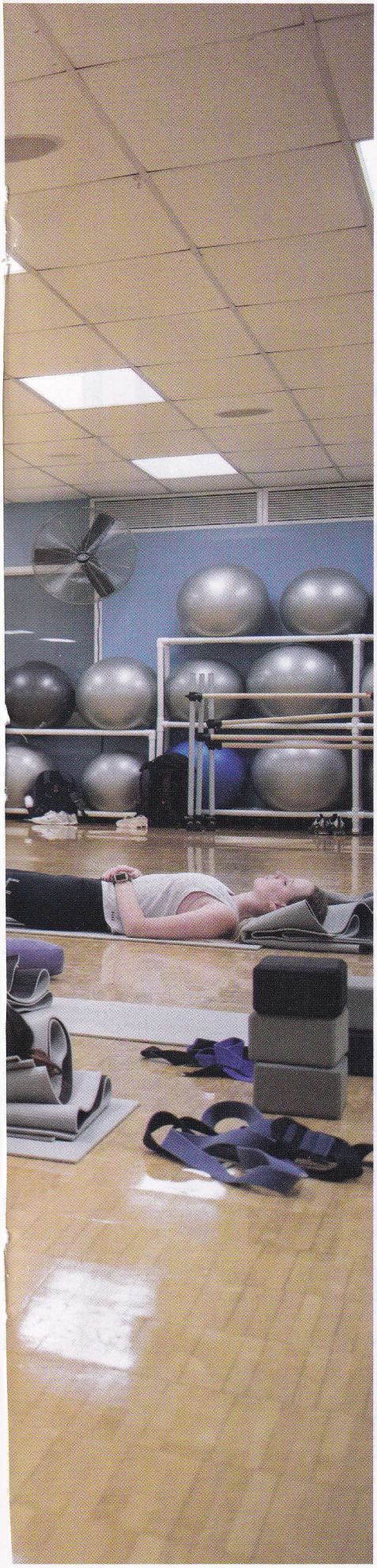
"I'd like to pursue these after I graduate, but it may be hard finding places that offer them, so I'm starting to run every once in a while, so I'll still be active," she said.

Joshua Aldred '19 (biomedical sciences) took golf, Barre fitness (a fitness course which incorporates ballet movements), and ice skating—three times.

"I took each of them to learn some new skills and develop better fitness habits, and also as a way to inject something fun and different into my day to break up the

YOGA

Jennifer Lukomski, a professor in RIT's Department of Psychology, leads a yoga class. RIT offers alternatives to physical exercise, including yoga, stress relief, and massage therapy.



Gabrielle Plucknette-DeVito

Gabrielle Plucknette-DeVito

TAP DANCING

There are several versions of dance offered in wellness courses, including ballroom, ballet, tango, country line dance, hip hop, Irish step, jazz, Latin, swing, and tap.

grind of class," he said. "I enjoyed skating so much, I just kept taking it and I learned enough to the point where I can now participate and keep up in ice hockey leagues."

Aldred now works as a research coordinator at the University of Rochester Medical Center but still plays hockey in a community recreation league.

The courses are offered in seven disciplines: wellness seminars, dance, fitness, music, recreation, martial arts, and health and safety.

The course subjects have evolved and expanded over the years, with the program incorporating suggestions from students and instructors. About six years ago, stress management and financial fitness courses were included. Last spring, guitar and steel drum ensembles were offered.

Hockey courses have been popular, but students sometimes signed up without ever having been on ice skates, so a power skating program was added as a suggested prerequisite.

Classes are usually held two times a week and follow the same meeting patterns as an academic class. Dodgeball and archery are routinely at capacity and among the first to fill.

Students receive a passing or failing grade. Attendance is taken and specific learning outcomes are outlined for students to achieve in each course, be it an improvement of motor, cognitive, or social skills.

The cost of the required first two wellness courses are waived. Students who wish to take more than the required two courses pay an average of about $105 a course per semester, which helps pay for the 92 adjunct instructors hired to teach them.

The courses also provide social engagement, allowing an opportunity for students to spend time with students from other majors.

"Our wellness courses have no academic restrictions or requirements. They are a

Gabrielle Plucknette-DeVito

STEEL DRUMS

Music classes, such as this course with steel drums, were added to the wellness options last spring. Richa Khanolkar, center, a fifth-year digital humanities and social sciences major, continues to take wellness courses beyond the two that are required because she said they make her feel better and active.

catalyst for cross-disciplinary friendships where you'll meet students and sometimes faculty and staff from across the university," Schrouder said.

It is hoped the wellness courses will instill confidence and stress reduction for students in their academic classes and allow a "reset" from their studying.

"You can't keep plugging away on a class project without stepping away for a bit," McArdle said. "These courses provide a healthy break from the academic demands of this university."

More courses and sections are added each year.

Although there are one-on-one personal training classes, and some classes with as many as 30 students, most have about 20 students.

There aren't a lot of complaints from students about the wellness requirement because of the variety of activities offered, including golf, lifeguarding, yoga, and yard games such as corn hole, can jam, and ladder ball.

"We really strive to have something for everyone," McArdle said. "And even though we have so much diversity, we're continuing to adapt to student needs, industry trends, and activities that are really extraordinary to do in the Rochester area. By engaging students in such a way, it just about guarantees they want to come back every week."

Greg Livadas

By the numbers

- 85 percent of students taking wellness classes say they are living a healthier lifestyle after the class.
- Last academic year, 5,430 students took wellness classes.
- 92 adjuncts teach the wellness courses. One, who began teaching RIT students horseback riding in 1972, plans to retire in December.
- One student took 32 wellness classes (30 more than the required two).

Some of the most **valuable learning** happens outside the classroom.

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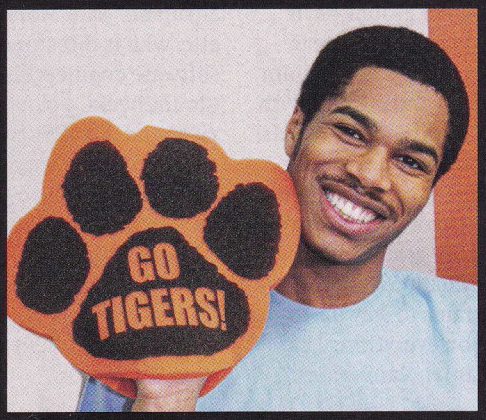
Drive progress.
Shape what's possible.
Transform the future.

Transforming **RIT**
The Campaign for **Greatness**

"In my time in RIT's Student Government (SG), I've learned a lot about what it takes to be a leader. A few of these skills include compassion, patience, commitment and effective listening. These and other skills are crucial in making sure SG runs as efficiently as possible as we advocate for the student body. Being part of SG has given me the skills and the confidence necessary to be an active leader both in my academic and professional careers."

— Larry Williams, III '20 (marketing), SG, Director of Student Relations



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Learning from Industry

Employers keep RIT's curriculum forward-looking

In a new lab on RIT's campus, engineering students can experiment with the latest internet-connected sensors that make today's factories "smart."

One building over, computer science professors are helping their students stand out to future employers by adding more project-based learning to classes.

And graduate students in a new global supply chain management degree program can now infuse analytics and technology into their business studies.

These curricular updates are the result of recommendations from just a few of the university's industry advisory boards and councils. For the last several decades, volunteer groups have played a pivotal role in keeping RIT's curriculum relevant and current with the latest industry trends.

"Industry changes at a rapid rate, and without the help of our industry advisory groups, it would be difficult for faculty and programs to stay up-to-date on everything," said S. Manian Ramkumar, dean of the College of Engineering Technology. "No matter what you're studying at RIT, it needs to be relevant to today's industry, so our graduates can hit the ground running immediately."

The groups of 10 to 30 leaders from a wide variety of companies come together a few times a year to offer their insights for RIT faculty and staff in nearly every college.

For some advisory board members, the group discussion is a chance to shape the future of their industry. For others, including Paul Monette '94 (computer science), being part of an industry advisory board is an opportunity to stay connected with his alma mater.

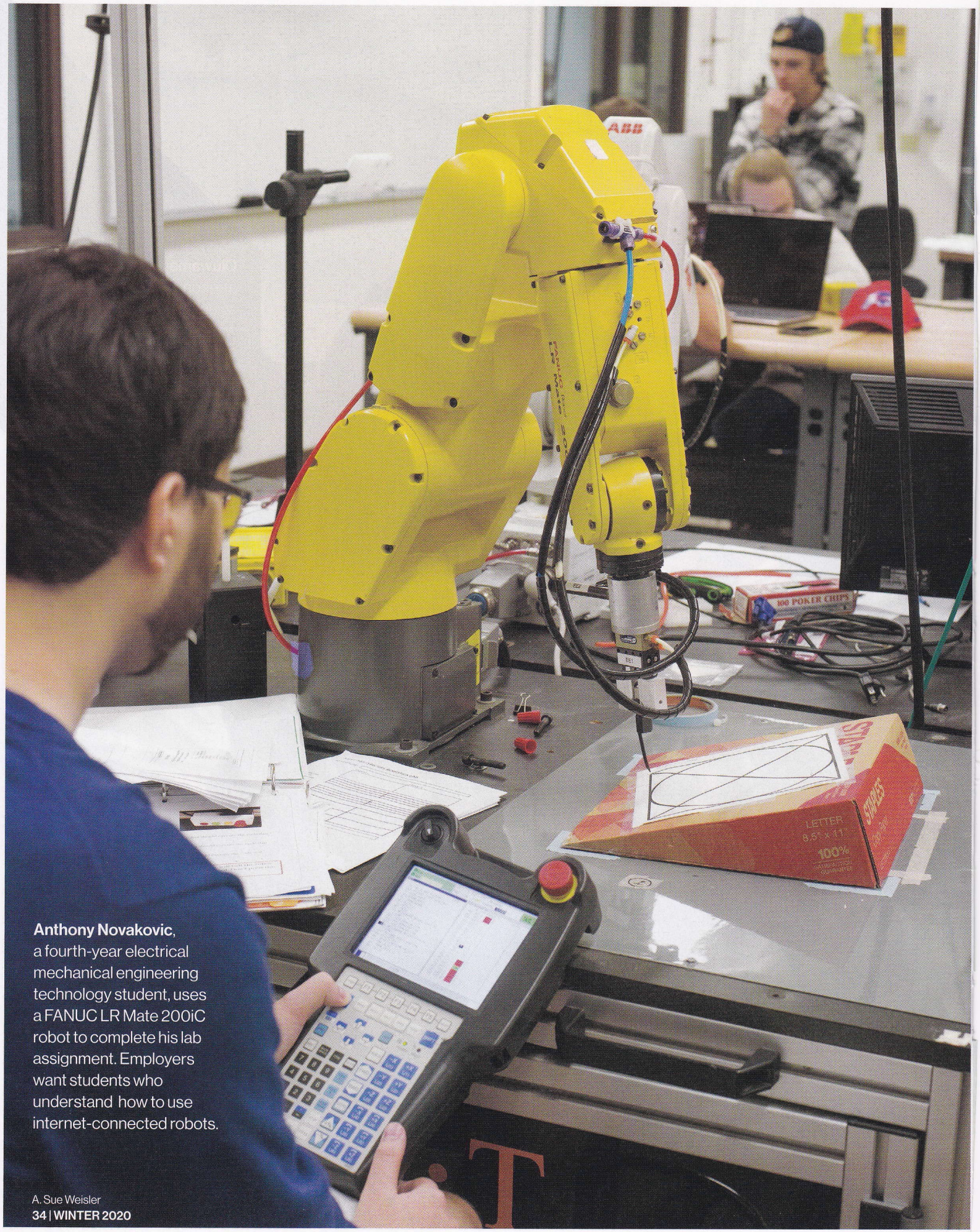
"But, it's not always altruistic," said Monette, who is director of software engineering at CloudCheckr, a cloud services and infrastructure management company in Rochester. "I also get a better understanding of what today's graduates want from a career, which gives me key insights for recruiting top talent for co-ops and jobs."

Industry advisory boards are a guiding hand across RIT. The groups of industry leaders give input to keep the university's curriculum current.

Get involved
To learn more about joining an advisory board, contact ritalum@rit.edu.

Oluwamayowa (Mayo) Olojo, a second-year computer science student, right, was prepared to talk with employers at the RIT Career Fair after taking a new required class . The Computer Science Industry Advisory Board helped shape the class.

A. Sue Weisler



Anthony Novakovic, a fourth-year electrical mechanical engineering technology student, uses a FANUC LR Mate 200iC robot to complete his lab assignment. Employers want students who understand how to use internet-connected robots.

A. Sue Weisler

Industry influence across RIT

Genomics
Through industry guidance, the Thomas H. Gosnell School of Life Sciences has expanded its footprint in genomics. The school is creating new courses, hiring more faculty with expertise in the field, and equipping a genomics research lab.

Hollywood connections
Faculty and students in the School of Film and Animation get to tour leading Hollywood studios and visual effects companies in Los Angeles because of connections through the Entertainment Industry Advisory Board, which is based in California.

New projects in food
New technology in the food and beverage industry has inspired the Packaging Science and Manufacturing and Mechanical Engineering Technology departments to create projects around food, including a robotic hot dog assembler and an automatic s'more-making machine.

Scholarships
Industry advisory board members offer scholarships, such as the TSO Logic: An Amazon Web Services Company Scholarship—five annual awards of $2,000 each for computer science graduate students with an interest in edge computing and big data analytics.

Latest equipment
Industry board members and companies have donated equipment for engineering faculty and students to train and do research. In 2015, Gleason Works donated a 400H Gear Hobbing machine designed to cut shaft and wheel-type work pieces.

What's new in industry

Robert Garrick sees his department's industry advisory group as the voice of the customer.

"We're teaching the engineers that they're going to hire in five years," said Garrick, acting chair of the Department of Manufacturing and Mechanical Engineering Technology. "So we need to find out what skills, certifications, and training these graduates might need in the year 2025."

For many manufacturing experts in the MMET industry group, the future is in Industry 4.0. As factories become equipped with wireless sensors and monitors, engineers are able to gather new data—analyze it using machine learning—and use that information to continuously improve quality and processes.

"Smart manufacturing is where the industry is going, so that's where we're going too," said Garrick.

With guidance from the industry board, RIT recently established a new Industrial Internet of Things (IoT) Lab. Featuring a networked and cloud-connected programmable logic controller (PLC) based system, students have access to high-performance computers, advanced sensors, actuators that gather data, scalable storage, and the ability to manage the technology remotely.

Since fall, students have been using the lab for courses on automation and controls. The space will also be used by faculty and student researchers who are working to develop new hardware, software, control algorithms, and machine learning techniques.

Gabrielle Plucknette-DeVito

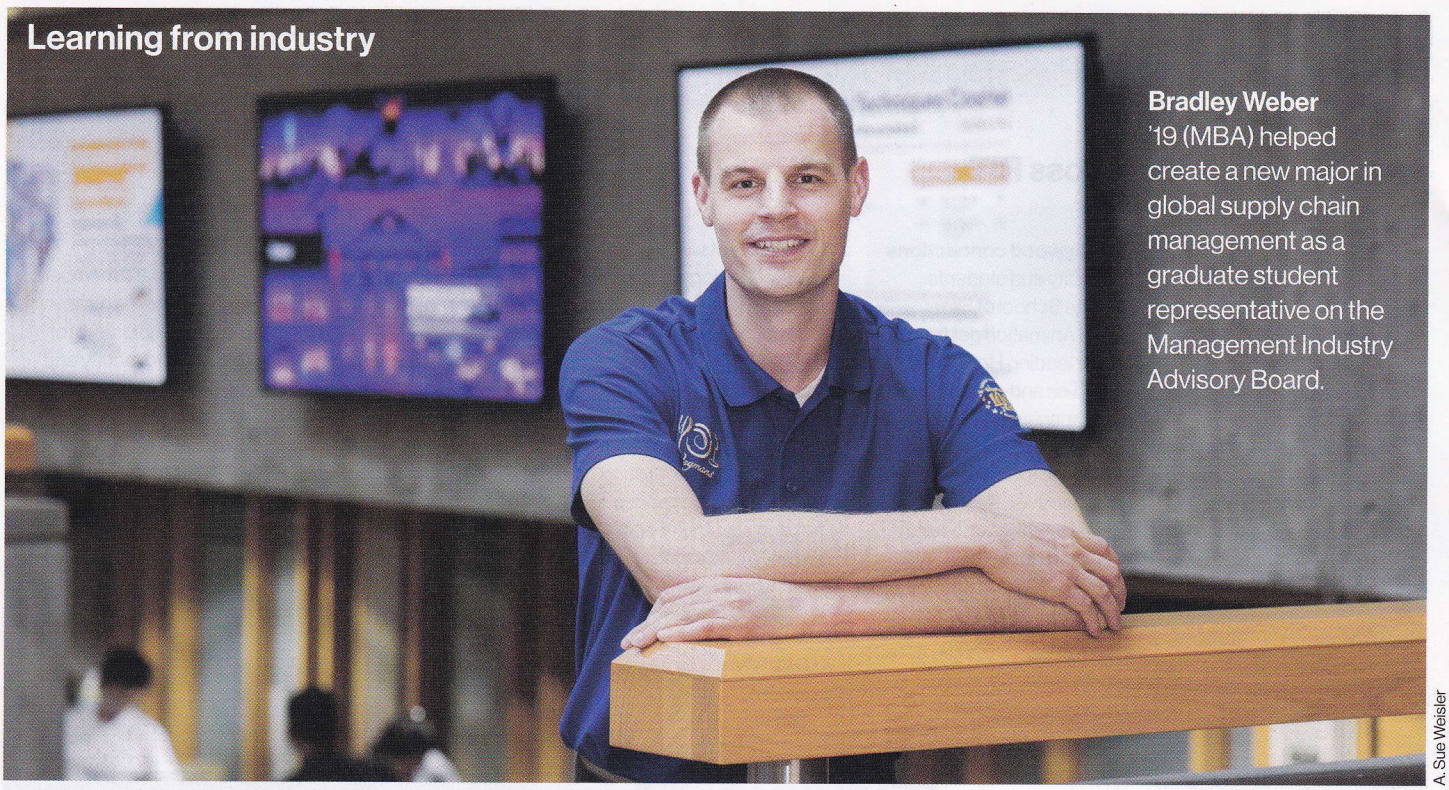
Paul Wisotzke '88 (business management), a test and validation manager at UTC Carrier, took part in an industry panel to share his work and hiring experiences with students in the Co-op Seminar prep class, including Kailey Coates, a second-year computer science student.

Adding new skillsets

In a new seven-week Co-op Seminar Course for computer science students, industry feedback is being used to prepare students for co-operative education employment.

Students in the required class develop their résumés and job interview strategies. They also cover data privacy ethics, what to expect from the onboarding process, and how to dress for their first day on the job.

"We've overwhelmingly heard from our industry advisory board that employers want to hire students who can seamlessly blend into the professional workplace and get right to work," said Reynold Bailey, a computer science professor who co-teaches the Co-op Seminar with Mindy Blake, a career services coordinator. "Members of the board have even volunteered to serve on an employer panel during the seminar so they can share first-hand what computer



Bradley Weber '19 (MBA) helped create a new major in global supply chain management as a graduate student representative on the Management Industry Advisory Board.

A. Sue Weisler

science industry professionals are looking for."

"It's these little things that give our students a leg up in the workplace," Bailey added.

The industry advisory board also assists the department with maintaining its ABET accreditation, making sure that technical aspects of the program are up to professional standards.

Industry feedback has changed the curriculum in other computer science classes as well.

As a UX Engineer and recruiter at Google, Erik Haddad '06 (computer science), '07 (MBA) enjoys talking with prospective employees about the projects they create in and out of the classroom. He also wants to log onto GitHub to actually see them.

"I can read through a transcript of how job candidates worked with past team members on a project and faced each problem," said Haddad, who is part of the computer science advisory board. "Most of the candidates who get job offers are the ones who have open source and public projects that we can actually see."

As a result, Bailey and other professors have been adding more project-based learning to their courses.

"In my classes, I've always focused on learning by doing, but now I also emphasize to students the importance of being able to share their work with potential employers," Bailey said.

What industry wants

Advice from industry advisory boards not only changes the curriculum, but their input helps create new degree programs.

Bradley Weber '19 (MBA) worked as a supply chain team leader at Wegmans and enrolled at RIT three years ago to work on a master's degree part time.

Through his work at Wegmans, Weber understood how important computer systems are to managing a network of warehouses today. He shared that expertise with his Organizational Behavior and Leadership class.

His professor, Sandra Rothenberg, then connected him with Shal Khazanchi, chair of RIT's management department who was putting together an industry focus group to discuss a new master's degree program in global supply chain management.

"There was a common theme resonating from our management advisory board — how technology is more important than ever for running a business," said Khazanchi. "We learned that employers are looking to hire graduates who can be effective leaders and understand the technical aspects of the entire supply chain network."

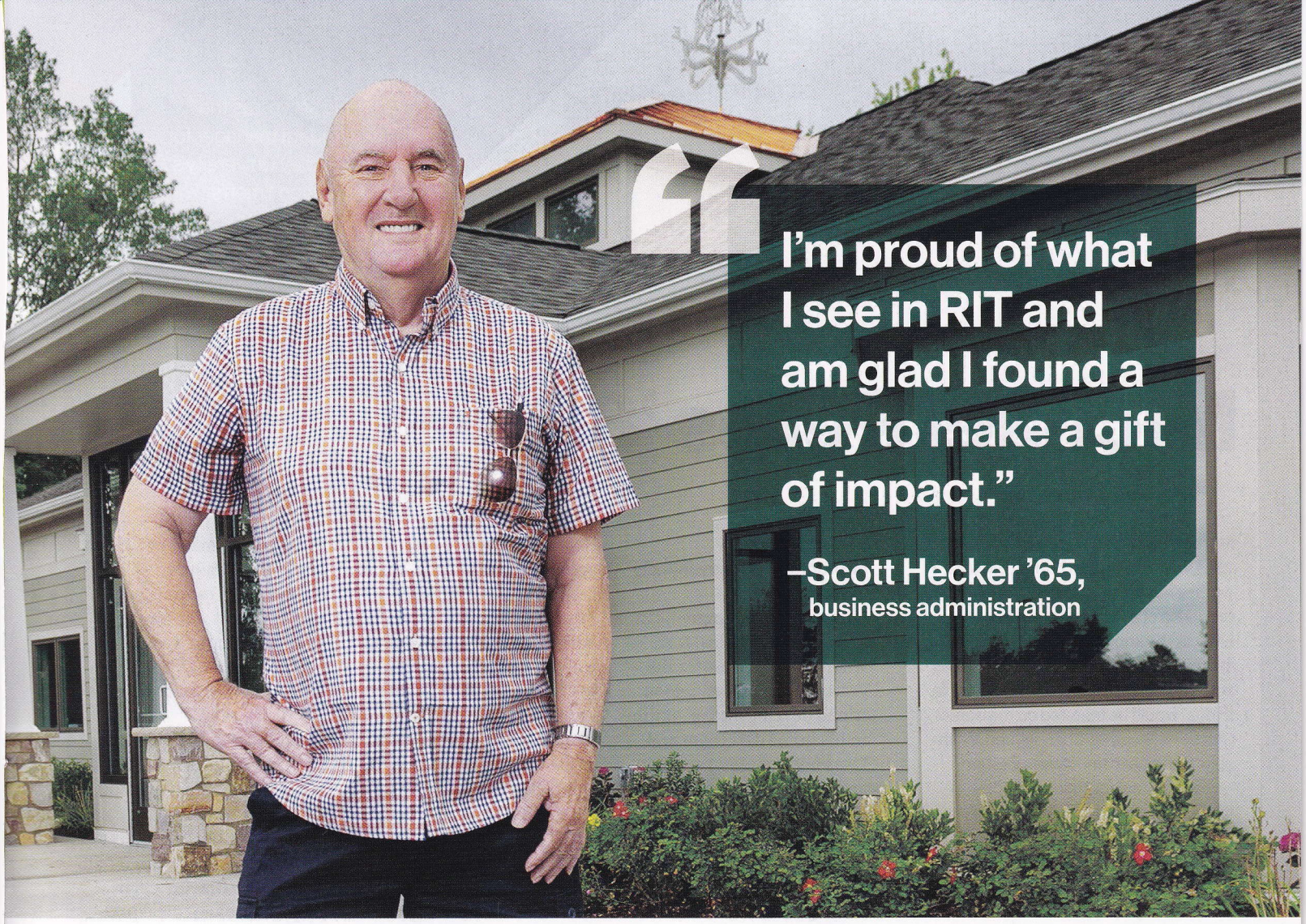
As a graduate student representative on the advisory board, Weber joined leaders from Constellation Brands, Kodak, and other local companies to provide input on the knowledge and skills needed in the industry. The group also reviewed which aspects of the curriculum they thought would be useful for students and potential employers.

"At Wegmans, we need people with experience planning and laying out networks that involve both people and machines," said Weber, who is now a logistics coordinator with Wegmans. "And like many companies, we're getting products from all over the world. So new graduates should be able to adapt to doing business across different countries and cultures."

This academic year, Saunders College of Business began accepting students into the new master's degree program in global supply chain management.

"We're lucky to have industry leaders who advocate for our students and programs," said Khazanchi. "We need that outside perspective to make sure that our curriculum meets industry needs and equips RIT graduates with the knowledge and skills that are needed for their long-term success."

Scott Bureau '11, '16 MBA



Charitable Gift Annuities

Big Impact for you and for RIT

Scott wanted to make a gift of impact to RIT, so he gave shares of stock to the university to create a Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA). During his retirement, the fund will pay tax-free income to Scott or his family, and the remainder of the fund will transfer to RIT.

Now is a great time for you to consider a CGA through RIT! Payout rates are higher this year, which means more cash for your retirement. If you’d like to learn more about creating a CGA or other legacy giving options, contact us today.

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He served as the student manager for Bradley University's Division 1 men's basketball team from 1975-78.

Michael Peres '82

Michael Peres began taking pictures in 1973, when he bought his first camera with money he earned from bagging groceries at a local supermarket. Little did he know then that his work in microscopy, photographing snowflakes, and what he describes as "barely visible things" would be featured on the likes of CNN, The Weather Channel, and Mashable and make him widely published.

Over the last four-plus decades, the professor in RIT's internationally recognized School of Photographic Arts and Sciences (SPAS) in the College of Art and Design has made photomicrography, biomedical, and lab photography a major focus.

He's a past winner of both the Eisenhart Award for Outstanding Teaching as well as the college's Gitner Family Prize in the area of artistic achievement and contribution for outstanding professional work.

"I love using the classroom as a learning lab and I subscribe to using 'life lessons' as core principles in my teaching," said Peres, who serves as the associate administrative chair of SPAS. "Discovery learning can be a powerful tool."

Since 1987, he's played a key role in RIT's Big Shot, a community photo project and one of the university's signature events.

Peres also has been honored with the Louis Schmidt Award for significant contributions to the progress of biocommunications—and the Frank J. Romano Innovation in Graphic Publishing prize for his work with students.

"Teaching highly motivated and talented students has given me great joy," Peres said.

What drew you to photography and eventually into teaching?
I discovered photography in high school in Utica, N.Y., when I volunteered for the yearbook. I watched a good friend develop and print film in his home darkroom and I was hooked after seeing an image appear in a tray of chemistry.

How did you become interested in scientific photography?
I was a pre-med major in college and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in 1978. I worked as a student photographer for three years at Bradley University, where I photographed many of my biology lab assignments. I taught myself how to take pictures using a microscope loaded with special Kodak microscopy film.

How has the transition from analog to digital photography impacted your work?
Digital photography was very disruptive and fascinating at the same time. Science, like photojournalism, was an early adopter of the new technology. RIT's biomedical faculty was very progressive and in 1990 began creating a digital environment to teach scientific photographic communications.

How did you make your way to RIT?
I enrolled at RIT in 1980. After completing a second bachelor's degree in biomedical photography, I moved to Charleston, W. Va. I then moved to Detroit, where I worked as the supervisor of medical photography at Henry Ford Hospital. In 1985, I was hired as an instructor in RIT's imaging and photographic technology department before moving over to the biomedical photographic communications program.

How would you describe your teaching style?
I believe in discovery and experiential learning. During my evolution as a teacher, I created many assignments that rely on empowerment and exercises that encourage problem-solving and thinking outside the box. When students use self-directed activities, their learning is richer and more lasting.

When did you start photographing snowflakes?
I started in January 2003. I did so at the invitation of a former student and RIT alumna Emily Marshall '04 (biomedical photographic communications), who visited the Buffalo Museum and Science Center, where she saw an exhibition of photographs made by Wilson "Snowflake" Bentley. She came back to campus passionate about wanting to learn and inspired me.

What was your favorite RIT Big Shot?
Always the most recent one, for sure. Truthfully, I love the process of making Big Shots, with all of its chaos and its magic bringing people together. Big Shot started out as a small extracurricular project for biomedical photography students, and what has happened in 33 years is remarkable. It has changed my life. To think that it has been the subject of a PBS documentary, featured on CNN, and on countless front pages from Washington and Dallas to Sweden and Croatia has been both astonishing and a huge source of pride.

Tune in

Intersections: The RIT Podcast is a twice-monthly conversation between people whose daily work is making a difference in the world. To listen to Michael Peres in one episode, go to http://bit.ly/RITpodcast.

Peres is a board-certified medical photographer, the only one in West Virginia in 1983.

He has a personally signed Christmas card from the King of Sweden, Carl Gustaf Folke Hubertus. (The Royal Palace Stockholm was the subject of RIT Big Shot No. 20 in 2003).

Peres led 31 imaging and photomicrography workshops in Sweden between 1997 and 2017.

He won the Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizens Award upon graduation from high school in 1974.

Five of his former RIT students have become medical doctors.

Elizabeth Lamark

Christina Gullo '06 is president and CEO of Villa of Hope, a youth and family services organization in Rochester that serves about 4,000 people a year. The organization helps those struggling with substance abuse, mental illness, or education challenges.

A. Sue Weisler

Providing a glimmer of hope to those in need

One thing has remained constant as Christina Gullo has advanced in her career—her passion for helping people.

Gullo '06 (Executive MBA) is president and CEO of Villa of Hope, a youth and family services organization in Rochester dedicated to helping those struggling with substance abuse, mental illness, and education challenges.

"I am a big believer that everybody should have opportunities to pursue their dreams to their fullest potential," she said. "I want to be sure that everyone has equal access to have and use services that are available to them, to have the confidence to reach out for support when they need it, and to have organizations like Villa of Hope support them through their journey."

The Saunders College graduate began her career as a human resources coordinator at Catholic Family Center in Rochester, rising to vice president within seven years.

It was during this time that she decided to earn her Executive MBA degree, growing the skills she would need to one day become a leader equipped to make the right decisions for the people she would serve.

"I felt that my EMBA would serve to fill the gaps of what I was lacking—the financial background, the strategic thinking, the marketing," she said. "And the program at RIT was exactly what I needed. And little did I know how much I needed it until I walked in the door at Villa of Hope eight years ago."

When Gullo arrived at Villa of Hope, the organization was operating in the red. It was unable to financially sustain itself due to the abundance of residential care services it provided its clients at a time when the need was declining.

In addition, staff was overwhelmed and unable to meet the changing clinical needs of its residents.

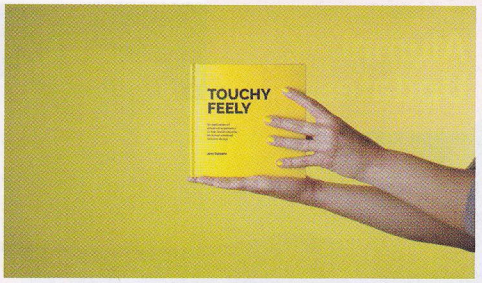
"The environment where children were solely living in residential care was starting to change. Not only is it extremely expensive, but research has shown that youth and families fare better when the family unit remains intact and relationships develop," she said. "We needed to completely re-examine our organization from top to bottom, which included downsizing in order to grow, specializing our residential program, and expanding our community-based and behavioral health services."

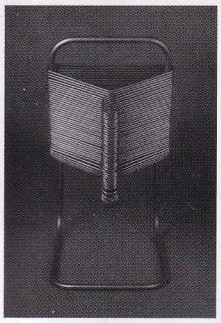
Today, Villa of Hope serves about 4,000 people annually, including in its community education and prevention programs, clinics, and school.

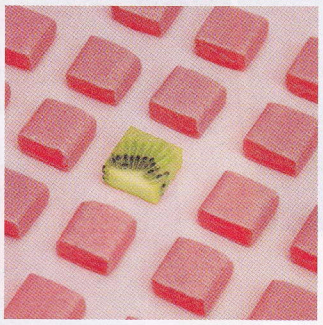
The organization has operated in a surplus for the past three years and is the only certified sanctuary organization in the Rochester area specializing in trauma services for children and families.

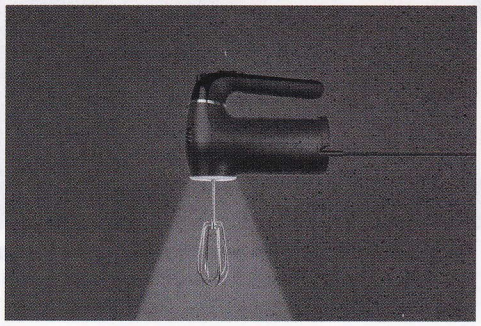
"For me, it has always been about improving lives; that's never changed. But the type of leader that I wanted to become suddenly became clearer," she said about the EMBA program. "I looked at everything differently after I finished my EMBA program. It was life changing."

Vienna McGrain '12 MS









Joey Zeledón '06 designed a chair made out of plastic hangers, a water bottle for PepsiCo called Drinkfinity, and a hand mixer with a headlight. Zeledón, who wrote a book called *Touchy/Feely*, has also explored smart food design. Learn more at joeyzeledon.com.

Alumnus uses design to tell a larger story

When Joey Zeledón '06 (industrial design) contributes to a new product design, he aims to design for a consumer's feelings rather than solely focusing on aesthetics and functionality.

Zeledón first became interested in the concept of designing for feelings—or, as he describes it, "emotional ergonomics"—while working for Continuum, a global innovation design firm in Boston.

"It was a pivotal moment in my career when I realized the process wasn't about designing a thing; it was more about creating and telling a compelling story around people, their environment, and the things they use," said Zeledón.

One of Zeledón's newest conceptual designs, the Coat Check Chair, is the embodiment of this methodology.

The chair, made from a shaped metal rod and plastic coat hangers, is a personal project for Zeledón that he conceptualized during his senior year at RIT.

In June 2019, he set up a Kickstarter campaign to gauge public interest and gain financial support for the functional sculpture. He reached his funding goal one month later, days before the end of the campaign.

"I set out to design a chair that wasn't just another designer chair. It makes you see ordinary objects in a new way, and I really love that approach to design," said Zeledón.

Originally from Schenectady, N.Y., Zeledón moved to Barcelona in 2019 to work at HP as a design lead. Previously, the first-generation college graduate also worked for Clarks, Smart Design, and Steelcase and helped design products for companies including Google, PepsiCo, American Express, and Banana Republic.

Whether it be apparel, household items, or beauty products, Zeledón always looks at a new design through his lens of emotional ergonomics and considers how design can impact individual lives. He believes in this practice so strongly that he wrote a book, *Touchy/Feely*, explaining his philosophy.

"The products we design are just props in a larger theater of life. We have the props, characters, character development, and a stage where all of these things interact. When thinking of it that way, it puts the products in perspective," he said.

Beyond giving users an emotional experience in an artistic sense, his approach also helps when considering design that is accessible to all users. Some of his favorite designs from his portfolio, such as the OXO electric hand mixer, were made with emotional ergonomics and accessibility in mind.

While he was working at Smart Design, Zeledón and the team decided to include a headlight on the hand mixer so people, particularly those with low vision, can clearly see their batter while they're mixing it.

"Traditional ergonomics, usability, and functionality are expected. But ultimately the holy grail and the new frontier is designing for feelings," said Zeledón. "It's applying that emotion you feel and turning it into action by creating a design from your empathy."

Felicia Swartzenberg '19

Above: Mike Battle '02 is a color modelist for *The Simpsons*. Right: Battle worked with Scott Zarzycki '03, right, and other RIT film and animation alumni to create the LEGO couch gag.

Alumnus works with his childhood heroes on 'The Simpsons'

Mike Battle '02 (film and animation) has been watching *The Simpsons* for almost 30 years. For about half of that time, he has had a behind-the-scenes view of new episodes.

Battle moved to Burbank, Calif., in 2004 to work as a color modelist for the award-winning TV show. As a color modelist, Battle creates digital color guides for animators to follow when bringing life to new episodes.

There are designs that have pre-existing color guides, such as the living room in the Simpsons' home, but Battle works on isolating and identifying elements that require new colors, such as new locations, costume changes, and things as subtle as a spill on the carpet.

Unlike some people who meet their heroes and are disappointed, Battle says that everyone he's met—from Matt Groening, the creator of the show, to Nancy Cartwright, the voice of Bart Simpson—has been a pleasure to work with.

"The show has been around for so long that there are artists still working here that started when it was just pencil, paper, paint, and ink," said Battle. "I'm working with some of the original artists who drew, animated, or directed sequences that I consider to be some of the best moments in television history."

The behind-the-scenes experience hasn't diminished his love for the show, it's just altered it. Instead of being a passive viewer, he has an active hand in producing new episodes. "It's a different kind of TV magic. I no longer experience the surprise of seeing it on the screen for the first time, but I absolutely enjoy being behind the curtain contributing to the show's development and growth," he said.

After graduating from RIT, Battle moved to California to pursue a career in animation. Before he found his dream job, he got experience with a variety of different production positions. He worked for Nickelodeon as a production assistant, at Film Roman as a post-production coordinator on *King of the Hill*, and even once as a movie extra.

When reflecting on the 14 years he's worked for *The Simpsons*, Battle said one of the biggest highlights of his career was creating an opening couch gag, which appeared on the "Midnight Towboy" episode of season 19.

The opening couch gag is one of the iconic elements of *The Simpsons*. Using his experience from the RIT film and animation program, he created a stop-motion couch gag made from LEGOS.

"It's surreal to work with and befriend the people who created such a vital part of my childhood," said Battle. "To sit in meetings discussing how we are going to create a visual, a moment in television that millions of people are going to watch, is fascinating. It's really cool to be hanging out with the chefs in the kitchen."

Felicia Swartzenberg '19

Tanvi Asher '10 says her favorite thing about owning her own boutiques is being able to create unique window displays. She sells original clothing that she designs.

Fashion that makes your wallet feel good

Fashionable boutique clothing usually comes with large price tags. However, at Shop Peppermint and Salty, two boutiques in Rochester owned by Tanvi Asher '10 MFA (industrial design), customers can get a high-end experience at an accessible cost.

Making clothing that is stylish and reasonably priced helped motivate Asher to open her first store, Shop Peppermint, in April 2012. Her newest boutique, Salty, opened six years later in October 2018.

"Clothing makes you feel really good about yourself. A dress, a top, or a new pair of shoes will make you feel like a million bucks, but I don't think something like that should cost a million bucks," said Asher. "Good design doesn't have to come at a hefty price tag."

Asher, from Mumbai, India, fell in love with Rochester when she moved to the city to complete her master's degree in 2006. After she graduated from RIT, Asher did contract work at Bausch & Lomb working with medical packaging.

While working there, she began designing clothes during her free time and would sell them at different consignment shops, local markets, and art shows. When she was laid off from Bausch & Lomb, she decided to open her own storefront.

"I noticed that Rochester did not have a boutique that was catering to young women in terms of accessible fashion and fashion that is within reach. I was sure that I could fill that niche market with my designs."

At the store, customers will find a variety of products, including original clothing and shoes designed by Asher, jewelry and other accessories, and home décor. There are only six of each clothing design.

In Shop Peppermint, she also sells a wide array of Rochester-themed merchandise.

The accessible and unique fashion isn't confined to the store locations on Culver Road and Park Avenue. Asher also invested in a mobile boutique so she can bring affordable fashion anywhere in Rochester.

On the truck, everything is less than $35, and the space is equipped with a fitting room, dressers, wooden floors—nearly everything a person would expect to find in a traditional boutique.

"We go to areas where the only access people have to clothes is a Walmart. I wanted women everywhere in the city to see that you can have cute fashion without breaking the bank," said Asher.

Catering mainly to young women who are still in or just graduated from college, Asher's two goals for her boutiques are to encourage people to shop locally and show everyone that they don't need to pay hundreds of dollars to get trendy, high-quality clothing. She aims to make her shop reasonable enough that anyone who walks in the door can buy at least one or two items.

"When I was a younger student living on Park Avenue in Rochester, I often would wander into a couple boutiques. I couldn't afford anything in there, but I loved it. I always thought, 'Aw man, I wish I could afford that,' and that feeling always left me feeling a little empty," said Asher. "When I started this, I knew I never wanted a person to feel that way in my boutique."

Felicia Swartzenberg '19

Elliot Benitez '07 created the Nuni Toaster, which toasts tortillas. The toasters are now for sale on Amazon.

Taco 'bout ingenuity: Grad invention hits market

Elliot Benitez '07 (marketing) was eating dinner with his mother during RIT's winter break when he noticed that his mom kept getting up to warm tortillas over the stove.

Benitez thought there had to be a better way and wondered if anyone was selling a tortilla toaster. He searched Google and Amazon and found nothing.

Today—more than 13 years later— that same search points people toward the Nuni Toaster, a tortilla toaster patented by Benitez.

"We have robots on Mars and cars are driving themselves and yet no one had ever figured out how to make a tortilla toaster," Benitez said. "With my technical background from RIT, it seemed doable to me."

It didn't happen, though, without a lot of research. After graduating from RIT, Benitez returned to his hometown of Chicago and put his marketing degree to use growing his mother's cleaning service.

The company did well and within a few years he was able to open a line of credit to invest into the tortilla toaster idea. He hooked up with a product development firm and hired a patent attorney to perform a patent search.

They found nearly a dozen other patents for tortilla toasters, but none of them was on the market, Benitez said. He began studying the patents to try to figure out why. By doing so, he was able to create a new tortilla toaster design.

Once the initial prototype was complete, he linked up with a bread toaster factory in China and started working through eight iterations before manufacturing the first 2,640 toasters. The first container arrived in the fall of 2017 and Benitez began selling them directly to consumers and collecting feedback from users.

"We learned we were warming the tortillas too fast, like in 30 seconds, so we went back to the factory and lowered wattage on the product and introduced a second generation model," he said.

In March 2019, the company launched those toasters, which can toast six 6-inch tortillas in under a minute, on Amazon and sales have been growing rapidly each month. Now he is looking for an investor and hoping to scale the business into an entire product line of tortilla toasters.

Benitez said he wouldn't have made the product without his hands-on education.

"Research, development, and persistence can take you a long way," he said. "That is RIT in a nutshell."

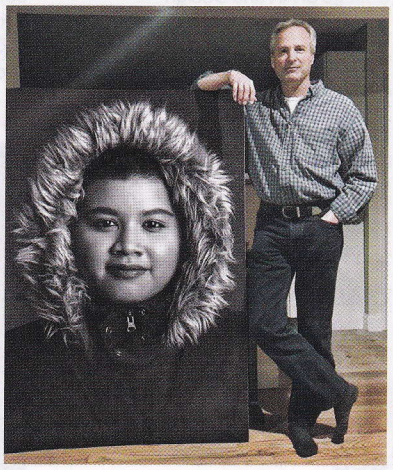
And what does his mother think?

"She loves it," Benitez said. "We use it every time we make tacos."

Mindy Mozer

To learn more

Go to nunitoaster.com or search for the product on Amazon.com.



Ronen Yaari

Rob Goldman '84, right, wanted to use his skills as a professional photographer to uplift the young people in his community. Learn more at imatterproject.org.

Goldman cultivates love with photo project

After years of working in commercial photography, Rob Goldman '84 (professional photography) decided he needed to change his routine and focus on something new.

"My work life and reason for making photographs did not make sense to me anymore," Goldman said. "I felt like I was making photographs of a completely artificial world and selling people things they didn't really need. I wanted to cultivate love instead of consumerism."

To work toward his goal of cultivating love, Goldman quit commercial photography and embarked on several independent projects that focused on the reality, struggles, and beauty of life. In 2018, he found success through the "IMatter" project in New Haven, Conn.

"IMatter" is a multimedia empowerment program that "celebrates the sanctity and self-worth of teens and young adults."

To accomplish this, Goldman takes professional studio portraits of young people in the local community and asks them to write down why they matter. Once the photoshoot is finished, Goldman combines the photos and quotes into large banners, window posters, and interactive exhibits that are installed throughout the city.

"These young people are from all walks of life, but their photos will all be hung together," said Goldman, speaking about the social divisions in New Haven. "If I can visually unify the city, people will see evidence of this unification and realize, 'Hey, we are all one community.'"

Goldman originally began this project in 2013 at seven locations in Long Island, N.Y. After encountering endless roadblocks to the project's growth on Long Island, he abandoned it and threw all of his materials in the trash.

It took five years and a move to New Haven before the project saw the light of day again.

In New Haven, Goldman was able to execute "IMatter" on a larger scale. As word of his project spread, he gained support from the mayor's office, departments in New Haven City Hall, radio stations, nonprofit organizations, and the general population.

Using the same high-end production crew he worked with during his years photographing professional models, Goldman is able to give that "celebrity" moment to the participating youth.

"During the shoot, they gain an incredible state of elation and pride. When they write down what they are doing and why they matter, and get to declare it publicly, it tops the cake for them," said Goldman.

By December, Goldman aims to have 36 portraits posted across the city. In the future, he hopes to expand the project to other cities and share the self-love and jubilation with more youth across America.

"It's hard to articulate the feeling you get watching these young people looking up at their banner," said Goldman. "You're with them and they are just shining. They're beaming."

Felicia Swartzenberg '19

Class Notes

Abbreviations

CAST
College of Applied Science and Technology (now CET)

CAD
College of Art and Design

CCE
College of Continuing Education (now SOIS)

CET
College of Engineering Technology

CHST
College of Health Sciences and Technology

CIAS
College of Imaging Arts and Sciences (now CAD)

CLA
College of Liberal Arts

COS
College of Science

FAA
Fine and Applied Arts (now CAD)

GAP
Graphic Arts and Photography (now CAD)

GCCIS
Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences

KGCOE
Kate Gleason College of Engineering

NTID
National Technical Institute for the Deaf

SOIS
School of Individualized Study

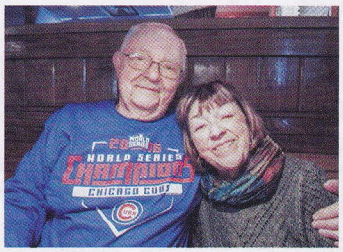
SCB
Saunders College of Business

SVP
NTID "Summer Vestibule Program"

About Class Notes

Class Notes are edited for space, clarity, and style. Share information by going to rit.edu/alumni/class-notes.

1961



Frank A. Cicha '61 (GAP) retired from Advanced Safe & Lock, Rochester. He and his wife, Judy, moved to the Legacy at Erie Station, a retirement community in Henrietta.

Leslie "Les" Greenberg '61 (GAP) completed a nine-month course to become a member of the Network of Consumer Hearing Assistive Technology Trainers.

1962

Brian Shapiro '62 (CIAS) has a painting, *Girl Blessing Torah*, on exhibit at the Dr. Bernard Heller Museum in New York through June 30, 2020. The painting is part of a group show titled "Relative Relations."

1970

Gary Mastrodonato '70 (SCB) worked for the Department of Defense for 32 years. He worked with military installation commanders and headquarters personnel, and he was the DoD pointman for the 1996 Olympics.

Jon Yerger '70 (KGCOE) is a founder, first chairman, and a current member of the board of directors of the Volunteers Improving Neighborhood EnvironmentS (VINES). VINES makes fresh produce available to all. For more, go to vinesgardens.org.

1971

Lou Loutrel '71 (GAP) and Kathy Loutrel celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a reception with their friends and 24 members of their family at the French Lick Springs Resort in August.

Norman J. Wironen '71 (GAP) retired from a 20-year career as a financial advisor with Edward Jones. He was also honored by the Greater Gardner Chamber of Commerce with a lifetime achievement award in recognition of his decades of volunteer activities and professional achievements.

1973

Edward "Doc" Amos '73 (GAP) received a life member award from RIT Ambulance for founding the RIT Student Safety Unit in 1970, the precursor to RIT Ambulance, during the April 2019 annual banquet.

Michael Rothman Havelin '73 (GAP) has launched his 16th book, *Ben Bones & the Uncivil War*, the sixth book in the Ben Bones series. He has been around the sun 75 times now and is working on his 76th circuit.

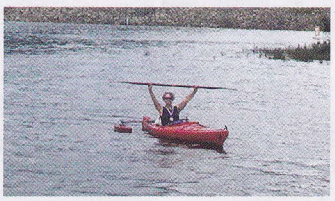
1975

William "Bill" Truran '75 (GAP) loves shooting recipe shots, so he is grateful to have landed a job shooting for a restaurant website.

1977

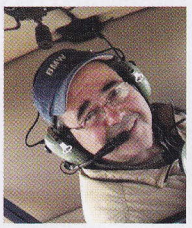
Kevin Hall '77 (FAA) has won an excellence award by the Connecticut Art Directors Club for his work in branding. Hall is principal/creative director at Kevin Hall Design, a graphic design and branding firm just outside New Haven, Conn.

1978

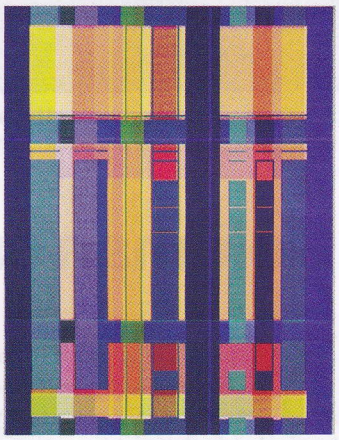


Deborah Marcuccilli '78 (KGCOE) successfully defended her title from 2018 as women's sprint champion at the U.S. Canoe/Kayak National Championships in Warren, Pa., in August.

1979

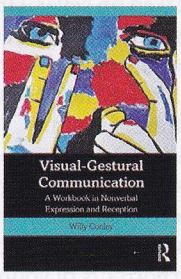


David Kutz '79 (GAP) was elected president of the International Association of Panoramic Photographers (IAPP) for a second term. The association will be planning a conference for the fall of 2020 in the Rochester area.



Gretchen Romey-Tanzer '79 (CIAS) was awarded the Massachusetts Cultural Council Artists Fellowship in the area of crafts in January 2019. Her focus was in woven and constructed textile design. She recently retired from 29 years of teaching high school art and is working on building her weaving studio and gallery in Brewster, Mass. Learn more at tanzersfiberworks.com.

1981

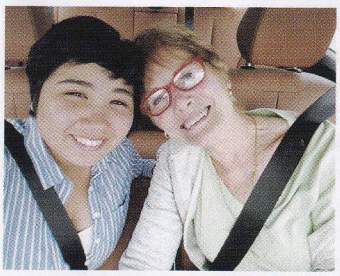


Perry Lee "Willy" Conley '81 (CIAS) is pleased to announce two new book releases. *Visual-Gestural Communication: A Workbook in Nonverbal*

Expression and Reception explores universal gestures, facial expressions, body language, and pantomime. *Listening Through the Bone* examines life cycles and experiences as a deaf individual, which he expresses through a collection of poems.

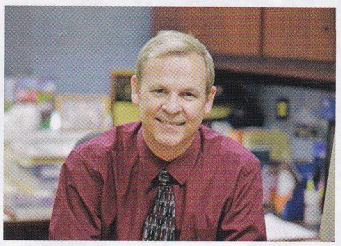
John Mischler '81 (SCB) joined Habersham Vineyards and Winery as its director of sales and marketing. Habersham Vineyards is Georgia's oldest active winery.

Thomas Mancuso '81 (CCE) used the experience of his management process course to pursue a career in the golf-teaching realm after a 35-year career in research and development at Eastman Kodak Co. He not only became a USGTF instructor but successfully achieved the status of master golf teaching professional in 2002. He has maintained a working program in Rochester and Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., for the past 17 years.

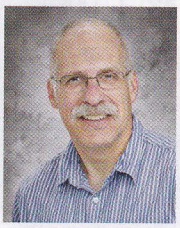


Joyce Moyer '81 (SCB) retired from Morgan Stanley where she was senior vice president, financial advisor, for about 20 years. Her grandaughter, Masako Moyer, finished her first year in RIT's medical illustration program.

1982



Keith M. Cagle '82 (CLA) is the current chairperson of American Sign Language and Interpreting Education Department at RIT/NTID.



James Whritenor '82 (KGCOE) has decided to move on after 35 years of fun engineering work at Eastman Kodak Co. and then Kodak Alaris. He started his own business as a life/career coach with the goal of helping people find happiness and fulfillment in the next chapter of their lives.

1983

Joel Kwiatkowski '83 (CAST) works in telecom and lives near Sacramento, Calif. He has been married 25 years and enjoys biking, hiking, and snow and water sports.

1984

Mark Vedel '84 (SCB) started at Sharp Business Systems in Los Angeles as a network services architect.

Kathleen Weintraub '84 (FAA) and **T. I. Weintraub '84 (GAP)** celebrated the birth of their first grandchild, Waylon Michaud. They recently traveled to Iceland, Scotland, and the Shetland Isles.

1986

Catherine Rinehart Hogan '86 (CAST) directed her first short film, *POTSHOT*, which is streaming on Amazon Fire TV (Great Lakes channel) and on Roku (Great Lakes VOD channel).

Alumnus part of team that built large YMCA

LaBella Associates

Tim Webber '97 has worked as a civil engineer with LaBella Associates for seven years.

Tim Webber '97 (civil engineering technology) helped design one of the largest YMCA facilities in the country.

Webber is vice president and director of civil engineering at LaBella Associates, an international architecture, engineering, environmental, and planning firm in Rochester. The Schottland Family YMCA, in Pittsford, N.Y., opened in September.

"LaBella has worked with the YMCA in many different regions of New York state, and we support its mission to build a healthy spirit, mind, and body for all," said Webber. "We enjoy working on projects that enhance the community and know that this YMCA will be an asset to community members of all ages."

The new facility includes many of the traditional elements of a YMCA, but on a larger scale, such as a swimming area with two pools, a splash pad, and a whirlpool; a spinning stadium with 90 stationary bikes; more than 18,000-square-feet of fitness areas; and art, music, and dance studios.

"The site had to be laid out in a manner that made sense for a variety of diverse users, including the member visiting the gym, a parent dropping off children at daycare, and an elderly patient visiting the health care facility," said Webber, as he discussed challenges this project presented. "I am incredibly proud of what our engineering team accomplished for the YMCA at this location."

Tiger Love

Couple celebrates 50 years of crafting a business

Annie Schlechter

Michael and Winnie Bixler, both 1969 graduates, run Bixler Press and Letterfoundry in Skaneateles, N.Y. "I think one of the greatest things we took away from RIT is meeting each other," Michael said.

A friend introduced Winifred "Winnie" (Gray) Bixler '69 (art and design) to Michael Bixler '69 (printing) when they were juniors at RIT's downtown Rochester campus.

They went to an old, nearby restaurant (Camp's) and had ham sandwiches for dinner.

"We enjoyed each other's company and had similar aspirations," Michael said. "We enjoyed RIT and had a positive view of things to come after graduation."

The Bixlers celebrate 50 years of marriage in 2019 as well as 50 years since they graduated. And that positive view is as strong as ever.

Today the couple lives in Skaneateles, N.Y. Together they run the Bixler Press and Letterfoundry, where they do Monotype typesetting, fine letterpress printing, traditional book typography, and offer classes in book arts.

"Our journey in creating books has been long and diverse," Winnie said. "I have done book binding, design, and letterpress printing. It has been great, and it all started at RIT."

After a stint in the Navy, living in Hawaii, the Bixlers moved to Boston and started their own Monotype shop in 1973. They moved to Skaneateles Lake in 1983 and began restoring an 1867 brick mill building.

They live over their first floor shop, which still features Monotype typesetting machines that cast type in metal, one character at a time. Michael says their work is a craft more than a commercial business.

They have worked with editors, authors, and artists from all over the world, including Japan, Australia, England, Mexico, and Canada.

Monotype composition and letterpress portfolios included projects for photographers Minor White, Irving Penn, Issey Miyaki, Eliot Porter, Ansel Adams, Imogene Cunningham, and Andre Cartier Bresson. They also set the entire text for Alexander Lawson's *History of the School of Printing*.

Limited edition letterpress books, set on the Monotype, have been their specialty. There are few people in the world who still do this type of work professionally, full time.

"We offer a very unique service, and people seem to track us down and find out where we are. It's not the kind of work you can go out and solicit," Michael said.

Winnie said she feels honored to be part of the process of creating a beautiful and valued book, calling each project a special journey. She said they both feel a great sense of accomplishment as they complete each project.

"We have been doing this work together for 50 years, sharing the same creative spirit and interests," Michael said. "If it hadn't been for RIT, we would never have had this enriching life journey."

Mindy Mozer

All in the family

Elizabeth Lamark

A pinning ceremony in August welcomed incoming legacy students to RIT. This year, 132 students with multi-generational ties started classes at the university. There are about 600 legacy students currently enrolled at RIT. The pinning ceremony is an annual tradition.

1987

Renee Reagan Booths '87 (FAA) is QE for Magna Seating of South Carolina. She manages quality on the new third-row seats for the BMW X7.

1988

J. Pellingra '88 (CAST), '01 MBA (SCB) received his 21st U.S. patent this year. All are packaging material or design related.

1989

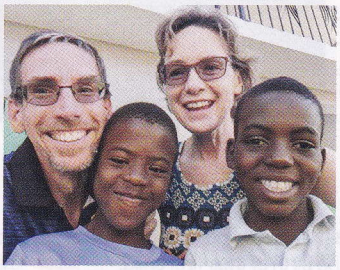
Lou Luba '89 (CLA) was awarded the state of Connecticut Oliver Ellsworth Award and was the recipient of a governor's proclamation from Gov. Ned Lamont as the 2019 Prosecutor of the Year, for his continued work with victims of sexual assault.

Ed Portolese '89 (SCB) was promoted to chief information officer of Arconic Inc. and transferred to Pittsburgh on March 1, 2019.

1990

Clayton Turner '90 (KGCOE) became director of NASA's Langley Research Center in Hampton, Va., on Sept. 30. Since 2015, Turner had served as Langley's deputy center director.

1991

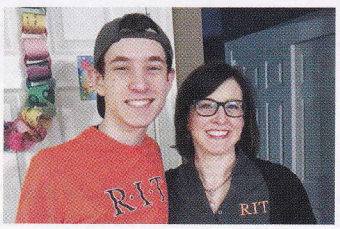


Randall "Randrew" McGarvey '91 (CAST), '01 MBA (SCB) and his wife, Denise, have been married 20 years. They moved to Jacmel, Haiti, in June 2017 to oversee an orphanage run by the Hands and Feet Project. The project focuses on caring for orphaned and abandoned children and also helps to keep families together by providing jobs to the local community.

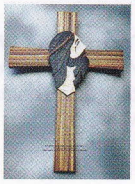
1992

Ebrahim "Ebe" Randeree '92 (CAST) received the Carl D. Perkins Humanitarian Award from the Florida Association for Career and Technical Education. This is the highest award given by the organization for outreach and service to the career and technical education community.

1993



Mark Anderson '93 (CAST) and his wife, Natalie, an MBA student, said their second child is now a Tiger. That makes four of five Andersons Tigers.



Joseph Brennan '93 (FAA) created this piece to once again show his gratefulness for his talents.

Frederick J. Hall '93 (FAA) is a part-time instructor of American Sign Language at the Fairfax County Public Schools/Adult and Community Education. He has taught American Sign Language for 25-plus years.

1994

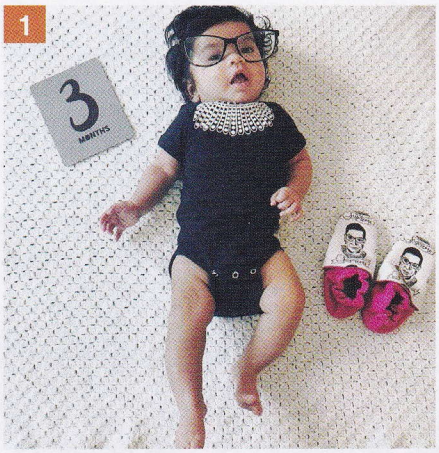
Michael Janssen '94 (CAST) was ratified by the Las Vegas City Council as the new director of Public Works in February 2018. In this role, he manages a staff of 300. The department designs, constructs, and maintains infrastructure for the city of Las Vegas.

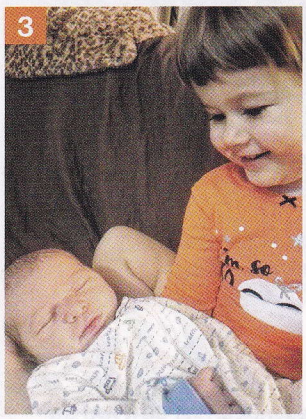
MONA MOON NATURALS

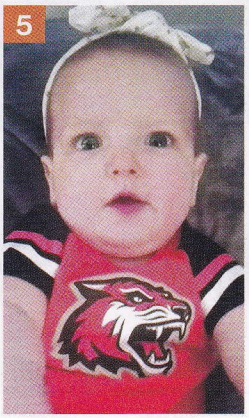
Mona Samaan-Ockenden '94 (CAST) launched Mona Moon Naturals, a natural deodorant and skincare company. All products are handmade in Fairport, N.Y. The company was inspired and created as a result of her sister's breast cancer diagnoses. Learn more at monamoonnaturals.com.

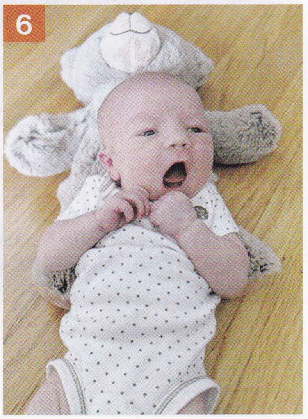
Atul H. Patel '94 (KGCOE) has taken on the role of product manager, Aviation Headsets, at the Bosch Building Technologies Division in the Minneapolis area. He also recently qualified as a top five finalist standup comedian in the ACME Comedy Club Funniest Person Contest.

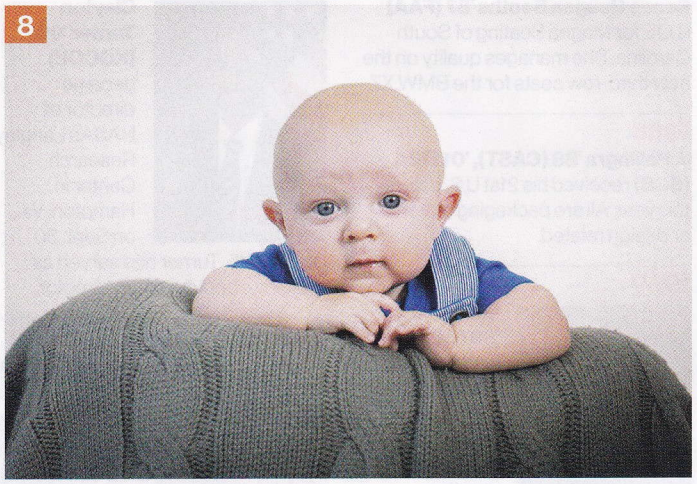
Tiger Cubs











1 **Neha Gupta Goyal '05 (GCCIS), '10 MS (GCCIS)** and Kart Goyal are thrilled to announce the birth of their second child, Amaya Radha Goyal, in April 2019.

2 **Sean O'Connor '07 (CAST)** and his wife, Meghan, welcomed their second child, Ronan Thomas O'Connor, in April 2019.

3 **Alan Krzywicki '07 BS/MS (KGCOE)** and **Kyle Krzywicki '07 MBA (SCB)** announce the birth of Wesley Krzywicki in December 2018.

4 **Anthony Macri '08 (KGCOE)** and his wife, Alisha, celebrated the birth of their first child, Margaret Clare, in May 2019.

5 **Arthur Connors '09 (KGCOE)** and his wife, Susan, welcomed their first child in November 2018.

6 **Thomas "TJ" Wasik III '09 (GCCIS)** and Megan Wasik are overjoyed to announce the birth of their son, Thomas Joseph Wasik IV. He was born in May 2019.

7 **Edward Wolf '09 (KGCOE)** and his wife, Elizabeth Ihidoy-Wolf, are overjoyed to announce the birth of their second daughter, Cora, who was born in July 2019.

8 **Erin (Schmidtmann) Purington '10 (COS)** and **Jonathan Purington '10 (COS)** welcomed their second child, Jasper Thomas, in March 2019. He likes to practice his tiger roar in the middle of the night.

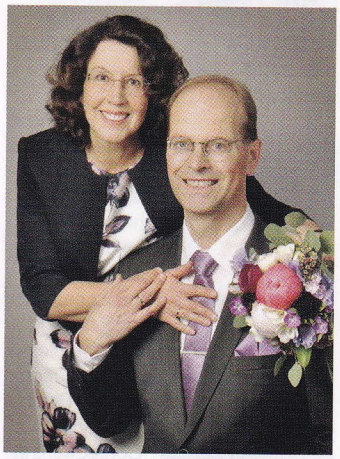
Thomas "Tom" Peeples '94 (KGCOE), '03 MS (CAST) was promoted to senior technical project manager, aviation, on the off-highway product development team at Goodyear. He is responsible for delivering new products to support the global aviation product road map in all segments including airline, military, business jet, and general aviation.

1995

Jeremy Sniatecki '95 (CIAS) is the lead designer on packaging design for a series of "little army men" style toys based on the "Fallout" video game series, in conjunction with Toynk/Fourth Castle and Bethesda.

1997

Laura Astorino '97 (CIAS) is a freelance project manager.



Reinhard Koch '97 (CIAS) and Karin Baierl were married on April 30, 2019, in Frankfurt, Germany. He is a research engineer at Manroland Sheetfed.

1998

Mark Mooney '98 (KGCOE) will be skipping a mixed team representing Team USA Curling at the upcoming World Winter Masters Games in Innsbruck, Austria, in January 2020. In curling, the skip is the captain of the team.

1999

Eric Wiley '99 (CIAS), '00 MBA (SCB) relocated to Memphis to assume the role of director, business and new product development, at Graphic Packaging International.

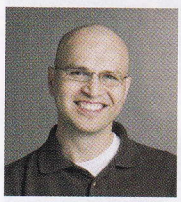
2000

Laura (English) Estey '00 (CAST) will be the general manager of a new French bistro, Kristines, opening in Princeton, N.J., in the fall of 2019. She has two children, Elliot, 5, and Lucy, 1, with her husband, Eric.

Carly Smith '00 (CLA) received her black belt certification in Lean Six Sigma.

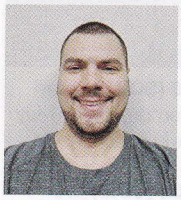
2002

Chris Guarente '02 BS/MS (KGCOE) flew the Stratolaunch aircraft on its first flight on April 13, 2019. The Stratolaunch aircraft is the largest aircraft in the world and is designed with dual fuselages to allow the aircraft to carry a rocket in between for launch of payloads into space. He is currently the chief test pilot at Scaled Composites in Mojave, Calif.



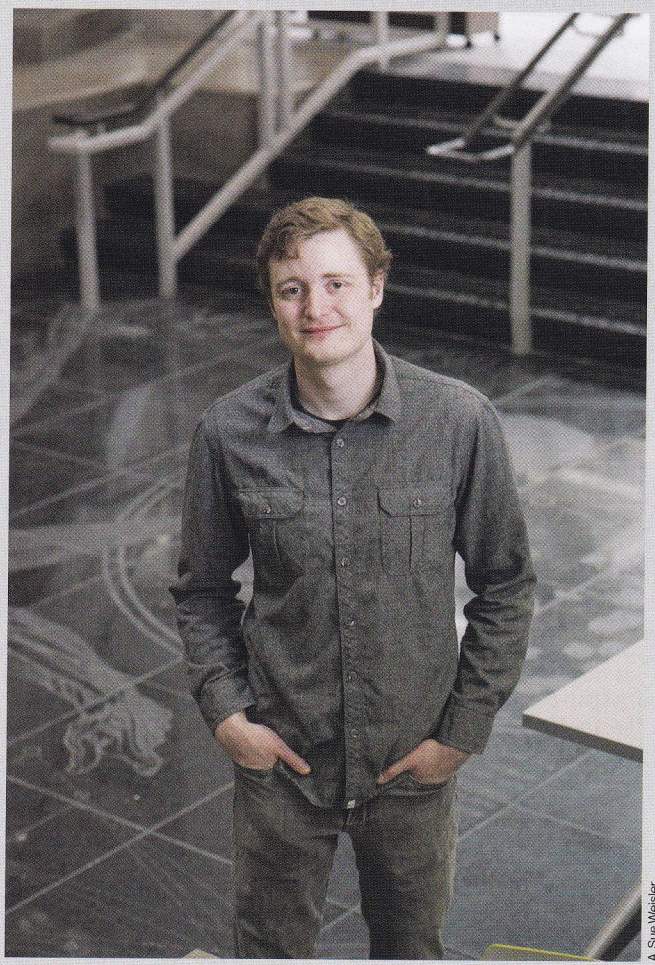
Cliff Devries '02 (SCB), head diving coach at RIT and Upstate NY Diving, won the 2019 AAU national diving championship in Riverside, Calif. His Upstate Divers won eight individual national titles and the overall team championship.

2003



Jacob "Jake" Stephens '03 (GCCIS) accepted the challenge of a system engineering role at Constellation Aviation Solutions. The primary objective is a tech refresh of FAA Runway Status Lights systems. Runway Status Lights is an advisory system designed to reduce the number and severity of runway incursions and prevent runway accidents while not interfering with airport operations.

Alumnus helps make the world a better place



A. Sue Weisler

Brennan Ireland '18 Ph.D. was selected for a fellowship to serve as a futures analyst with the U.S. Agency for International Development.

Brennan Ireland '18 Ph.D. (astrophysical sciences and technology) was selected by the American Association for the Advancement of Science for a Science & Technology Fellowship to serve as a futures analyst with the U.S. Agency for International Development.

The fellowships provide opportunities to outstanding scientists and engineers to learn first-hand about policymaking and contribute their knowledge and analytical skills in the policy realm.

Fellows serve yearlong assignments in the federal government and represent a broad range of backgrounds, disciplines, and career stages. Each year, the fellowship adds to a growing corps over 3,000 strong of policy-savvy leaders working across academia, government, nonprofits, and industry to serve the nation and citizens around the world.

"It's an opportunity to take a high-level degree in science in a different direction," said Ireland. "With this fellowship I feel like I'm going to be making an impact, helping to make the world a better place."

In this position with USAID, Ireland will use his analytical skills to quantitatively evaluate countries to get a better picture of what their futures look like.

The Futures Team assists USAID's field-based missions around the globe for emerging trends so their programs in health, governance, agriculture, natural resource management, and economic growth can help developing world citizens live better, healthier, and more productive lives.

Alumna feted with National Design Award

A. Sue Weisler

Patricia Moore '74 was part of RIT's Creativity and Innovation Alumni Spotlight Symposium in 2017.

Patricia Moore '74 (industrial design), an internationally renowned designer, gerontologist, and leading authority on consumer lifespan behaviors, received the prestigious Cooper Hewitt National Design Award in New York City in October.

Moore was honored in the Design Mind category in recognition of a visionary "who has had a profound impact on design theory, practice or public awareness," according to the Cooper Hewitt website.

From 1979 to 1982, Moore traveled throughout the United States and Canada disguised as a woman in her 80s to learn about the challenges faced by older people. She received prominent exposure in the media and raised awareness of universal design among the design community.

She was named RIT's "Alumna of the Year" in 1984 and in 2012 became a member of RIT's Innovation Hall of Fame.

Moore becomes RIT's second industrial design graduate to receive the design industry's most coveted award after Scott Wilson '91 received the National Design Award in Product Design in 2012.

The National Design Awards recognize designers who exhibit excellence, innovation, and enhancement of the quality of life.

Tianay (Hardy) Perrault '03 (SCB) was promoted to Lower Elementary Principal at East End Prep in East Nashville.

2004

Scott Kanzelmeyer '04 (GCCIS), '08 MS (GCCIS) graduated in May 2019 from Pennsylvania State University with a Master of Professional Studies degree in homeland security with the geospatial intelligence option.

Tamara (Clark) Washington '04 (CAST) shared this photo of her son, William, who represented RIT for college spirit day at his summer camp in Richmond, Va.

Elizabeth Stock '04 (CIAS) won a 2019 Bronze Summit International Creative Award for Best Logo Design-Consumer.

2005

Brett Hall '05 (CIAS) was nominated for a daytime Emmy on the PBS Kids series *Peg + Cat* for the sixth consecutive year, this time in the category of outstanding directing for a preschool animated program. He was also promoted to animation director on season two of Stephen Colbert's Showtime animated series *Our Cartoon President*, which premiered in May 2019.

Marc-Anthony Arena '05 (SCB) began the beta program for his latest device, OnlyYouCanCallMe.com. His device blocks all phone calls coming into a landline, except those from people you actually know.

Kara (Doughman) Austin '05 (CIAS) has accepted the position of assistant director, marketing and communications, in the division of Development and Alumni Relations at RIT.

Jeff Kryger '05 (SCB) married Stacey King aboard the Anthem of the Seas cruise from Cape Liberty, N.J., to Bermuda on June 16, 2019. They were joined on the cruise by family and friends, including many RIT alumni and members of the Phi Kappa Tau fraternity.

Audrey Lallier '05 (SCB) married Jordan Braun in Vernon, N.Y., on May 4. The couple lives in Austin, Texas.

Mike Murawski '05 (CIAS) has been promoted to the role of corporate supplier quality specialist at MillerCoors in Milwaukee, Wis. He previously worked at Adelsheim Vineyard in Newberg, Ore., as an enologist and cellar worker. Mike and his wife, Melissa Backus, live in Milwaukee.

Ryan Susa '05 (COS) accepted a position at Grifols Diagnostics Solution in Emeryville, Calif., as a senior technical product trainer.

2007

Dan Buschel '07 (CAST), '08 MS (CAST) earned his MBA from Marist College and received the Master of Business Administration Award for Academic Excellence for the School of Management, class of 2019.

2008

Trish Salmon '08 (CAST), '11 MS (CAST) is a New York Cares volunteer since 2007, baptized born again Christian since 2013, full-time city of New York worker since 2015, New York Cares team leader since 2017, New York City homeowner since 2019, licensed motorcyclist and driver since 2019, and a soon-to-be author of an autobiography.

2009

Melanie Gladstone '09 MS (NTID) is continuing her job as a teacher of the deaf and hard of hearing in Washington, where she works with students ages 3-11.

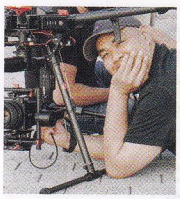
Rebecca Lane Oesterle '09 MS (CAST) has retired from full-time work. She was the senior manager of packaging and graphic development for Just Born Quality Confections in Bethlehem, Pa. She will continue to serve on the National Board of Directors for the Institute of Packaging Professionals as well as the industry advisory board for the Department of Packaging Science at RIT.

Mark Tiffany '09 (CLA) earned a Master of Science degree in medical management from the Simon Business School at the University of Rochester and accepted a new position at Tanner Health System in Carrollton, Ga. He will be the principal trainer for Tanner's Epic Electronic Medical Records System, responsible for training surgical nurses, schedulers, and anesthesiologists.

2011

Julianna Johnson-Truesdale '11 (CIAS) opened a design and marketing agency, True Creative Design and Marketing, in Ithaca, N.Y., in 2016. A year later, **Brandon Kelloway '11 (CIAS)** joined True Creative and in July 2019 they expanded True Creative to Rochester. They can be found at truecreativeny.com.

2014

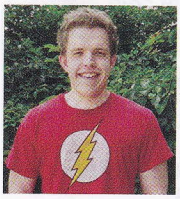


Dan Wang '14 (CIAS) celebrates his promotion to marketing director, Americas for Hasselblad, after a two-year tenure as product manager, Americas for Hasselblad Consumer/Aerial and broncolor.

Steven Lucchesi '14 BS/ME (KGCOE) and **Katy Wurman '14 BS/ME (KGCOE)** were married in Rochester on Aug. 3, 2019. Several former and current RIT Tigers were in attendance to celebrate the newlyweds, who met their first year at RIT. They live in Houston, where Steve is an account executive with Mitsubishi Heavy Industries and Katy is a managing consultant with Simpler Consulting, an IBM Company.

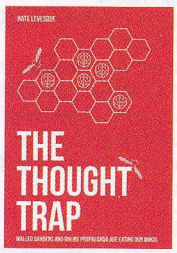
2015

Jennifer Stanton '15 (GCCIS) started working at Niantic Inc. as a client engineer on the game *Pokemon Go*. The new job included a relocation to Seattle.

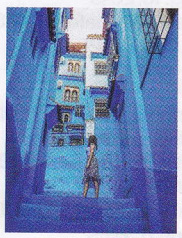


Ryan Vogt '15 (GCCIS) was again a Givens Associate and research assistant at Argonne National Laboratory working on partial differential equation optimization theory. As a mathematician, he has made several contributions to numerical solutions to partial differential equations, optimization theory, and numerical analysis. He is currently a Ph.D. student studying applied mathematics and will defend his thesis in 2020 at North Carolina State University.

2016



Nate Levesque '16 (GCCIS) is excited to announce the release of his second book, *The Thought Trap*. *The Thought Trap* examines the dystopian side to the web where our attention is a commodity.



Emily Moore '16 (CIAS) traveled to Morocco with her family for a vacation in July.

Paige Peckham '16 (CIAS) accepted a position as a designer at Red Thread in Boston.

William Pruitt '16 (CAST) has published the article, "A Disciplined Approach: Perform corrective actions using the 8D model." The column appears in the May 2019 edition of American Society of Quality's (ASQ) flagship periodical, *Quality Progress*.

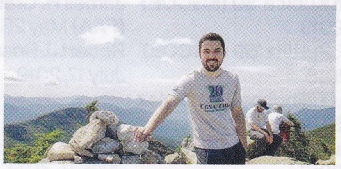
Timothy Wilhelm '16 (KGCOE) married **Layla (Petruzzelli) Wilhelm '16 (KGCOE)** on June 22, 2019, in Rochester. The wedding party included **Nathaniel Huff '14 (GCCIS)**, **Paul Snell '13 (GCCIS)**, **Joanna Pecko '16 (KGCOE)** and **Fabian Perez '16 (KGCOE)**. Other RIT attendees included **Jay Humphreys '19 (KGCOE)**, **Ben Litts '16 (KGCOE)**, **Chris Meyer '16 (KGCOE)**, **Elizabeth Pattie '18 (COS)**, **Nicole Mackey '19 (CHST)**, **Andrew Bogdan '16 (KGCOE)**, **Joe Marsico '16 (COS)**, **Aidan Steiger '17 (KGCOE)**, **Kelly Weiskittel '19 (KGCOE)**, **Kyle Rohde '19 (GCCIS)**, and **Patrick Pipino '90 (SCB)**.

2017

Jazmin Ruiz Castellanos '17 MS (CAST) and **Anthony Dreas '18 (CAST)** met while they were both at RIT. Jazmin was working on her master's degree in EHS management and Anthony was working on his bachelor's degree in design and applied arts. Last April, they got married in the Dominican Republic.

Brendan John '17 BS/MS (COS/GCCIS) and **Mikaela David '17 (CLA)** got married in Salamanca, N.Y., on Aug. 10, 2019, at the Seneca Allegany Resort and Casino. The two met at RIT in the Native American Student Association Club in 2014. They live in Florida with their dog, Kona, and both attend the University of Florida.

2018



Jonathan Amerault '18 (KGCOE) was promoted from associate manufacturing engineer to manufacturing engineer at Teleflex Medical. In his free time, he finished hiking "The 48 4,000 foot mountains" in New Hampshire and continues actively hiking and exploring the Appalachian Trail.

Marie McCartan '18 (KGCOE) and **Austin Kuzara '18 (CAST)** have been together since they were high school juniors. They got married in Buffalo, N.Y., where they are from.

James McCormick '18 (CLA) and **Alexis Collazo '18 (CLA), '19 MS (CIAS)** are engaged. They met during their freshman year thanks to RIT Tech Crew and began dating during their junior year. They will be getting married in October 2020.

2019

Hector Escobedo '19 (COS) is now employed in a full-time position as a software engineer at Obsidian Systems, where he previously interned. This is despite the fact that his major was not in software engineering or computer science, but computational mathematics. Some of his fellow students derided him for taking a keen interest in the Haskell programming language, which, it turns out, his company uses exclusively. He is quite happy to have proven them wrong.

Earl Sharkey '19 (KGCOE) landed a dream job at Snapchat.

Mike Troise '19 BS/ME (KGCOE) has begun working as a mechanical design engineer with TAIT in Lititz, Pa. TAIT specializes in the design and fabrication of concert stages and live entertainment automation solutions. He has already had the opportunity to work on shows for artists such as Queen + Adam Lambert, Ariana Grande, and Celine Dion.

Elena Zambito '19 (CHST) landed her dream job at the original Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., working in the cardiac disease department.

In Memoriam

Alumni

1941
John E. Person Jr. '41 (GAP) July 29, 2019
Phyllis (Briggs) Deal '41 (SCB) Aug. 15, 2019

1946
Marva (VanDusen) Burt '46 (SCB) Aug. 6, 2019

1947
Irene (Jankowski) Gadawski '47 (SCB) April 29, 2019
Joan (Warner) Howe '47 (SCB) June 26, 2019
Dean L. Williams '47 (KGCOE) July 15, 2019

1948
Michael J. Bach Jr. '48 (GAP) March 24, 2019

1949
Norman B. Biggart '49 (GAP) May 20, 2019
Henry Junge '49 (CCE) June 7, 2019
Roberta (Bennett) Lockwood '49 (SCB) June 18, 2019
Richard C. Skagenberg '49 (GAP) Aug. 10, 2019

1950
Robert E. Drees '50 (KGCOE) June 25, 2019
Harry E. Tomaschke '50 (KGCOE) April 19, 2019

1951
Roland J. Ketchum '51 (FAA) July 31, 2019
Carolyn (Auyer) Peckham-Welch '51 (SCB) Nov. 5, 2018
Audrey Jane (Sherman) Starken '51 (SCB) June 15, 2019

1952
Anthony Decroce '52 (FAA) Aug. 22, 2019
Donald M. Woodruff '52 (SCB) Aug. 9, 2019

1953
Richard E. Bagg '53 (GAP) June 4, 2019
Albert Z. Seymour '53 (KGCOE) May 28, 2019

1954
Thomas J. Wenglein '54 (SCB) Aug. 5, 2019

1955
Harold Frank Cowan '55 (GAP) June 24, 2019
Nicholas A. Tritto '55 (CCE) Aug. 12, 2019

1956
Ralph P. Dandrea '56 (KGCOE) July 24, 2019
Lester R. Luckenbach '56 (CCE) June 18, 2019

1957
James E. Fantone '57 (COS) May 4, 2019
Philip S. Franco '57 (KGCOE) May 2019
William E. Kruse '57 (KGCOE) Aug. 3, 2019
Kerwin C. Playfoot '57 (KGCOE) June 11, 2019
William F. Voisinet '57 (KGCOE) April 23, 2019

1958
Ronald T. Ferri '58 (FAA) June 13, 2019
Richard A. Osburn '58 (KGCOE) March 19, 2019

1959
Maurice A. Archambault '59 (GAP) April 19, 2019
Max B. Conrad '59 (CCE) Aug. 16, 2019
Stephen Kubica '59 (KGCOE) June 4, 2019
Albert F. Puttlitz '59 (KGCOE) Oct. 9, 2018
Patricia (Tillinghast) Sipowicz '59 (SCB) April 6, 2019
K. Richard Wheeler '59 (SCB) June 2, 2019
John N. Young '59 (COS) July 1, 2019

1960
Ralph G. Coleman '60 (CCE) Aug. 22, 2019
David A. Pytcher '60 (SCB) June 11, 2019

1961
Carl Dumbauld '61 (GAP) July 14, 2019
Robert Flaherty '61 (SCB) July 1, 2019
David Hastings '61 (GAP) July 24, 2019
Kenneth M. Klaus '61 (GAP) July 19, 2019
David G. Kopp '61 (CCE) Aug. 5, 2019
Joseph T. Simpson '61 (GAP) Aug. 16, 2019
Raymond E. Thompson '61 (KGCOE) Oct. 19, 2018

1962
Milton R. Keenan '62 (CCE) May 25, 2019
Winsor E. Larter '62 (CCE) July 2019
Joseph M. Panus '62 (SCB) Aug. 21, 2019

1963
Joseph A. Phillips '63 (GAP) May 20, 2019

1964
Michael F. Bonanno '64 (CCE) May 12, 2019

1965
John W. Bailey '65 (KGCOE) Aug. 5, 2019
William D. Ferguson II '65 (SCB) Aug. 2, 2019
Harold R. Jackson '65 (CCE) April 23, 2019
Joseph Matrone '65 (SCB) July 25, 2019
John A. Shane '65 (CCE) June 24, 2019
Joseph J. Taraci '65 (SCB) June 17, 2019
Walter Werther '65 (CCE) Aug. 21, 2019

1966
Jacque E. Clements '66 (FAA) Aug. 15, 2019
James H. Crable '66 MFA (FAA) May 23, 2019
Robert J. Ross '66 (SCB) July 17, 2019

1967
Terry J. Donovan '67 (CCE) June 17, 2019
Joseph H. Souder '67 (CCE) Nov. 21, 2018

1968
Anthony A. Dibiase '68 (CCE) Aug. 14, 2019
Anthony J. Fretto '68 MBA (CCE) June 7, 2019
John E. Parnell '68 (COS) June 14, 2019
David D. Selbert '68 (CCE) July 14, 2019
William L. Valentine '68 (KGCOE) Aug. 28, 2019

1969
Cecil M. Angle '69 (SCB) July 5, 2019
Ralph S. Barbaro '69 (CCE) May 9, 2019
M. Frank Erwin '69 (KGCOE) April 7, 2019
Harry J. Kelly '69 (CCE) June 10, 2019
Karl H. Mischke '69 (CCE) Aug. 7, 2019
David L. Mishkin '69 (GAP) June 26, 2019
Robert W. Morgenroth '69 (KGCOE) May 26, 2019
Thomas E. Ransburg '69 (GAP) Aug. 26, 2019
Daniel A. Stetzel '69 (CCE) June 10, 2019

1970
Thomas S. Fazekas '70 (SCB) July 7, 2019
John P. Knott '70 (KGCOE) Aug. 16, 2019
Walter F. Shafer '70 MS (GAP) May 20, 2019

1971
Rufus C. Crow Jr. '71 MBA (SCB) June 1, 2019
Arthur L. Floran '71 MBA (SCB) July 13, 2019
Peter C. Logel '71 (CCE) June 17, 2019
Albert M. Rozman '71 (NTID) April 22, 2019
Michael W. Walsh '71 (SCB) April 28, 2019

1972
Stephen K. Bleau '72 (CCE) July 26, 2019
Samuel A. Corcimiglia '72 (KGCOE) Aug. 25, 2019
Frank Dagonese '72 (CCE) June 17, 2019
George H. Frank '72 (CCE) July 13, 2019
Lawrence H. Michael '72 MBA (SCB) Aug. 2, 2019

1973
Daniel J. Brady Jr. '73 (SCB) May 9, 2019
Roland W. Laine '73 AAS (GAP) May 5, 2019
John F. McCabe '73 (CCE) April 11, 2019
Gregory M. Motala '73 (CCE) April 13, 2019
Martin C. Rokosz '73 (CCE) July 19, 2019
Theodore D. Shadler '73 (CCE) Aug. 16, 2019
Ronald P. Sitter '73 (CCE) July 4, 2019

1974
Cole F. Hartley '74 (CCE) May 11, 2019
Marcia L. Standera '74 MS (CCE) Aug. 8, 2019
George W. Wambach '74 MS (CCE) June 2, 2019

1975
Sherrie Falardeau '75 (CCE) Aug. 15, 2019
Robert E. Mezzanotte '75 (NTID) July 4, 2019
Charles H. Palmer '75 (CCE) Aug. 13, 2019
William J. Peters '75 (CCE) Jan. 7, 2019
Ray R. Ruliffson '75 (KGCOE) July 8, 2019
Lawrence R. Smith '75 (KGCOE) Aug. 5, 2019

1976
James W. Cockerill '76 (GAP) May 18, 2019
Arthur Edward Hodge '76 (SCB) May 28, 2019
John W. Matejcik '76 ME (KGCOE) Aug. 18, 2019
Patricia (Hogan) Oremus '76 (SCB) July 9, 2019

1977
William M. Allen '77 (SCB) July 4, 2019
Robert K. Hoyt II '77 (CCE) Aug. 8, 2019
Warren Russell Malone '77 (CCE) May 23, 2019
Jeffrey C. Strieter '77 (CCE) July 20, 2019
Thomas T. Young '77 (CCE) July 21, 2019

1978
Paul J. Prince '78 (CCE), '82 MS (CAST) Aug. 22, 2019
Leo E. Williams '78 (CCE) June 24, 2019

1979
Christine Mary Barber '79 (NTID) April 23, 2019
Dirk C. Vantoorenburg '79 (CCE) July 9, 2019

1980
Daniel Patrick Harrigan '80 (SCB) June 6, 2019
Peter M. Nicastro Jr. '80 (CCE) May 9, 2019
Harry A. Miller '80 (CCE) July 20, 2019
Eugene P. Ritter '80 MBA (SCB) July 31, 2019
David G. Rusin '80 (SCB) June 16, 2019
Deborah Lynn Vogt '80 MBA (SCB) May 20, 2019

1981
Carmen John Gallo '81 (SCB) July 5, 2019
Norman Lewis Johnson '81 (GAP) July 1, 2019

1982
Jack Stephen Demcovich '82 (CCE) June 6, 2019
Audrey C. Enfonde '82 (CCE) April 18, 2019
Monica I. Lambert '82 (CCE) May 18, 2019

1983
Marcia Marie Allen '83 (CCE) April 2, 2019
Michael Paul Gorman '83 MS (CAST) May 3, 2019

1984
Joseph P. Harding '84 (CAST) Aug. 19, 2019
Michael Jennings Clarke '84 (GAP) May 17, 2019
Donald Frederick Vanwinkle '84 (CCE) Aug. 25, 2019

1985
William H. Kest Sr. '85 (CCE) Aug. 6, 2019

1986
Marilyn S. Bailey '86 (CCE) Aug. 5, 2019
Dirk L. Large '86 (GAP) June 14, 2019

1987
Ronald Joseph Gregory '87 MFA (GAP) May 2, 2019
George Albert Mathis Jr. '87 (CCE) May 7, 2019
Annette (Kibbe) Nitko '87 (NTID) July 17, 2019

1988
Joseph A. Atallah '88 (CCE) April 23, 2019
Peter J. Nystrom '88 (KGCOE), '97 MS (CAST) June 14, 2019

1990
Thomas Joseph Martin '90 (NTID) June 30, 2019

1991
Carl Patrick Michaud '91 (CAST) May 15, 2019
Timothy S. Parker '91 (CAST) May 15, 2019
Todd A. Wolfanger '91 (CAST) Aug. 19, 2019

1993
Eileen M. Maher '93 (CCE) July 18, 2019
Jodi Diehl Nestle '93 MS (CLA) June 16, 2019
Robert M. Parker '93 (CCE) July 22, 2019

1994
Elizabeth E. Brocious '94 (CIAS) June 12, 2019
Brent Edward Decoste '94 (CAST) June 2, 2019

2000
Eileen L. Kimball '00 (CAST) June 14, 2019

2001
Glenys L. Crane-Emerson '01 (CLA) Aug. 28, 2019

2004
Evelyn A. Sizemore '04 (CIAS) July 5, 2019
Sara C. Bettis-Harrington '04 (CLA) May 6, 2019

2014
Amos Kivelowitz '14 (CAST) June 14, 2019

2016
Angelica Lopez '16 (NTID) June 24, 2019

2017
Sidney A. Freeland '17 (NTID) Aug. 15, 2019

Faculty and Staff

Bob Baker, former director and curator of NTID's Dyer Arts Center, Oct. 8, 2019

James DeCaro, dean emeritus and former interim president of NTID, Oct. 23, 2019

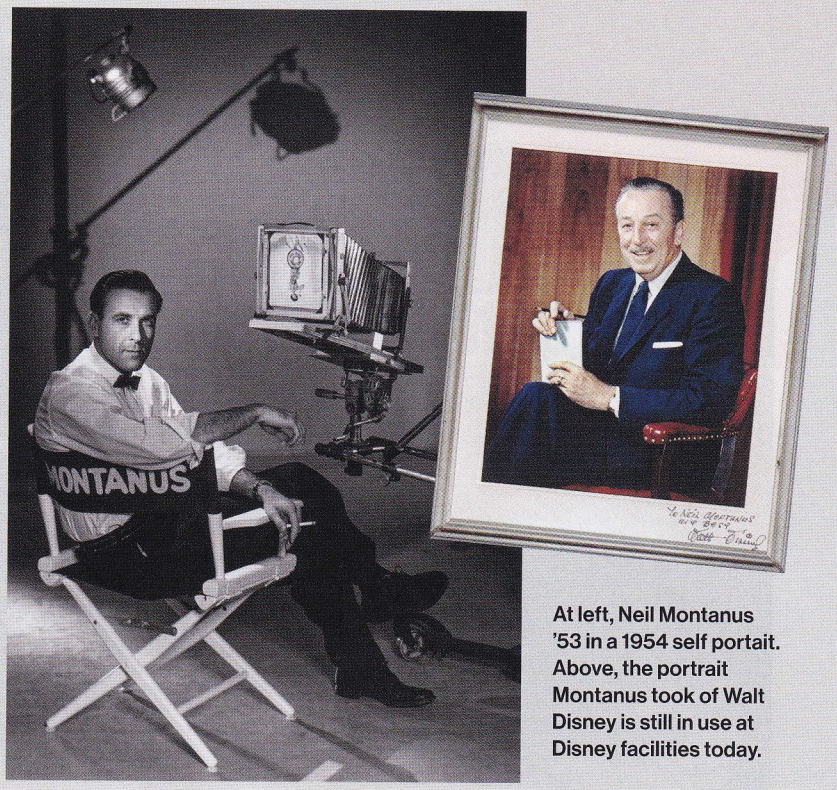
Nancy Heuer, former assistant to the dean in Saunders College of Business, Sept. 15, 2019

Weston Kemp, former assistant professor of photography, Sept. 28, 2019

Paul Wenger, associate professor in the School of Mathematical Sciences, Aug. 8, 2019

Correction

J. Alexander Scott '22 (FAA) died March 13, 1990. His date of death was listed incorrectly in the Fall 2019 *RIT University Magazine*.



At left, Neil Montanus '53 in a 1954 self portait. Above, the portrait Montanus took of Walt Disney is still in use at Disney facilities today.

Remembering Neil Montanus

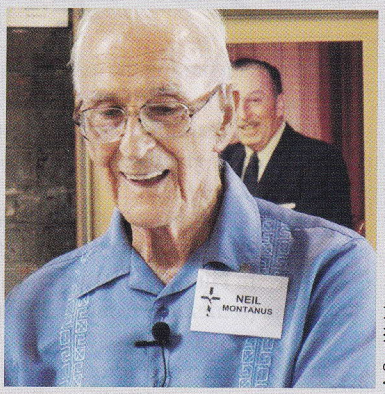
Neil Montanus '53 (graphic arts and photography), considered by many to be Eastman Kodak Co.'s most famous photographer, died on Sept. 6 in Rochester. He was 92.

He began work in a photo studio in his hometown near Chicago, but soon received a job offer from Kodak to work in its photo illustration division as a portrait photographer. It would become the starting point of an illustrious career.

During his career with Kodak, Montanus took 55 of the 565 Colorama photos—the colossal, panoramic displays that dazzled commuters in New York City's Grand Central Terminal for decades.

Montanus' portrait of Walt Disney in 1961 was called the "best portrait ever taken" of Disney and is still in use at Disney facilities today. Originally hired as a portrait specialist by Kodak, Montanus was asked to take the official White House portrait of Gerald Ford, taken in the Oval Office after Richard Nixon's resignation in 1974.

His work and personal photography took Montanus to more than 30 countries on six continents over a 35-year career. After he retired, Kodak asked him to serve as an ambassador for the company by training groups of young photographers. Training others was a skill that he had learned years earlier when he was hired to teach night classes in photography at RIT.



A. Sue Weisler

Montanus' work was featured in RIT's University Gallery and at High Falls Gallery, pictured here, in 2012.

On the occasion of his 90th birthday during a visit to the Henrietta, N.Y., campus in 2017, RIT's former College of Imaging Arts and Sciences (now College of Art and Design) presented him with a special certificate and named him a Notable Alumnus.

"Neil's work had a huge impact on how people take pictures today," said his son, Jim. "His work was seen by tens of millions of people around the world at a time when photography as a hobby was in its infancy. As a result, he is one of the important photographers of the 20th century.

"It was the Kodak connection that Neil made while attending school at RIT, which helped him to land his dream job at Kodak," he added.

Cary Graphic Arts Collection

The Cary Graphic Arts Collection, shown here in 1982, connects the past with the present.

Cary Graphic Arts Collection turns 50

RIT is celebrating the golden anniversary of the Cary Graphic Arts Collection, a veritable treasure trove of one of humankind's greatest inventions—the written word.

From 3rd millennia BCE Cuneiform tablets that mark the beginning of writing to the 21st century Palm Pilot that introduced a similar short hand (remember "Graffiti"?), the Cary Collection connects the past with the present and enriches everyone who enters the space on the second floor of Wallace Library.

The Cary Graphic Arts Collection was installed in 1969 in RIT's School of Printing and Management Sciences in James E. Booth Hall as a teaching and research library with 2,300 volumes dedicated to the history of printing.

The collection belonged to New York City-based printing executive Melbert B. Cary Jr., who operated his own private press and socialized with influential type designers and printers Frederic Goudy and Bruce Rogers.

Cary's personal library passed to his wife and, upon her death, was held in the Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust. The collection came to RIT through the foresight and influence of RIT printing Professors Alexander Lawson, future Cary Professor Herbert Johnson '62 (printing), and Albert Davis, vice president of development, who positioned RIT to house the rare book library. Their personal legacy has matured into an internationally known collection shaped by succession of curators and the university's evolving mission.

The Cary Collection has educated two generations of RIT students. Its holdings have grown to 45,000 volumes, with content expanding into graphic design, calligraphy, the development of letter forms, the history of the book, and materials related to book arts and fields including paper making, book design, and bookbinding, said associate curator Amelia Hugill-Fontanel '02 MS (printing technology).

A 50th anniversary exhibit, on display through the fall semester, highlights samples from Cary's initial collection and milestone acquisitions, including pages from the Gutenberg Bible, The New York Times Museum of the Printed Word, and the Kelmscott/Goudy Printing Press, among many others.

Rooted in the past, the rare book collection has a digital future in the Virtual Cary Collection. Remote accessibility will benefit students and researchers unable to visit RIT and expand the collection's reputation and its community of Friends of the Cary Collection.

Cary Curator Steven Galbraith is committed to liberal undergraduate access to the physical collection. His welcoming attitude and Hugill-Fontanel's guiding philosophy of "preservation through use" make the collection a vital part of an RIT education.

The Cary Collection hit a landmark year in teaching in 2018-2019. More than 2,500 students between the fall and spring semester visited the Cary library for class sessions that reflect the university's expanding curricula.

"Teaching shows our greatest impact," Galbraith said.

Susan Gawlowicz '95

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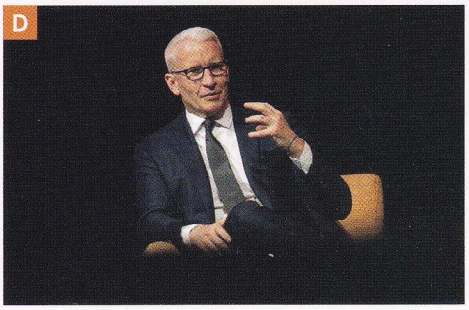
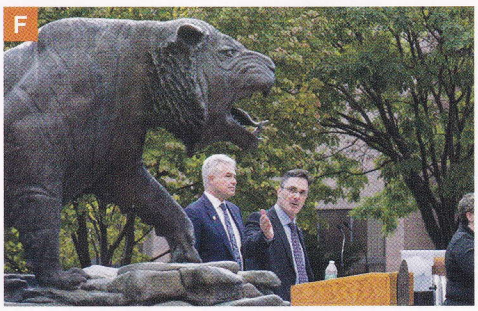
2019
Brick City Homecoming and Family Weekend





A. Eakin Howard, B. Gabrielle Plucknette-DeVito, C. A. Sue Weisler, D. Elizabeth Lamark, E. Myers Creative Imaging, F. A. Sue Weisler, G. Gabrielle Plucknette-DeVito

A The men's hockey team skated to a 4-0 win against Merrimack College in front of 9,805 fans at Blue Cross Arena.

B Pat Harris '54 (chemistry) looked through yearbooks with her daughter, Cindy Lower, center, and Natalie Anderson, executive director in Development and Alumni Relations, at the Golden Circle Luncheon. The event honors alumni who graduated 50 or more years ago.

C Fifty years after the Black Awareness Coordinating Committee became officially recognized as RIT's first cultural club, five of its founding members reunited at Brick City Homecoming and Family Weekend. From left to right are Kenneth Everett '69 (business administration), Ostein (Barnes) Truitt '70 (medical technology), Gil Whisnant '72 (biology), Laura (Brown) Delaney '68 (applied arts and sciences), and James Manning '70 (business administration).

D Journalist Anderson Cooper, Student Government Distinguished Speaker, talked about the state of the world and journalism to more than 3,800 people.

E Chi Nguyen, a Ph.D. student in astrophysical sciences and technology, played video games during the Presidents' Alumni Ball.

F Former Student Government President John Simmons '91, left, and Vice President Eric Senna '91 spoke at the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Tiger Statue. Student Government commissioned the statue in 1989.

G From left, grandparents Bob and Nancy Piwko; Nick Piwko, a second-year computer engineering major; Robby Piwko, a fourth-year game design and development student; mom Tammy Piwko; dad Rob Piwko '96 (mechanical engineering) and sister Annie Piwko of Buffalo, N.Y., enjoyed the family weekend.

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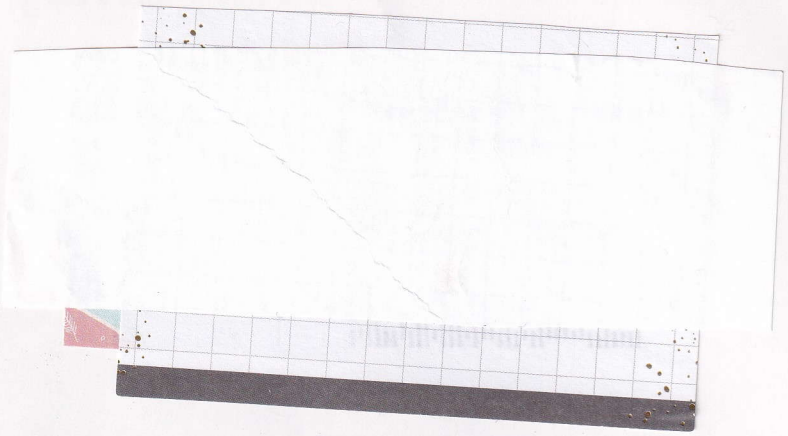

We're on to something life-changing.

Faculty and students at RIT are evolving one of nature's oldest designs. This project started with keen observation of the simple yet powerful muscle movements of the common river trout. After collaborating with ecologists, designers, and several types of engineers, they created a fully submersible robot fish. The effects aren't just felt in the classroom. The technology inside can be adapted to create a new wave of prosthetics. When creativity and innovation collide, you're on to something life-changing.

RIT

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